



## Trump claims 'ridiculous partisan' probes may upset progress

By JULIE PACE and CATHERINE LUCEY

Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — In his first State of the Union address to a divided Congress, President Donald Trump warned Democrats on Tuesday that "ridiculous partisan investigations" could derail the nation's economic progress. Trump peppered his speech with calls for bipartisanship, urging Washington to govern "not as two parties, but as one nation." But his message clashed with the rancorous atmosphere he has helped cultivate in the nation's capital, as well as the desire of most Democrats to block his path during his next two years in office. The president's remarks previewed how he planned to defend himself as Democrats launch a flurry of investigations into his administration and personal finances. "If there is going to be peace and legislation, there cannot be war and investigation," he declared. Trump's speech to lawmakers and the nation comes at a critical moment in his presidency. He pushed his party into a lengthy government shutdown over border security, only to cave to Democrats. With another shutdown deadline looming, the president has few options for getting Congress to fund a border wall, and he risks further alienating his party if he tries to circumvent lawmakers by declaring a national emergency instead.

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President Donald Trump delivers his State of the Union address to a joint session of Congress on Capitol Hill in Washington, as Vice President Mike Pence watchrd, Tuesday, Feb. 5, 2019.

Associated Press

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## U.S. commander: IS hold in Syria, Iraq on verge of collapse

By **MATTHEW LEE**

**AP Diplomatic Writer**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — President Donald Trump is expected to declare near-total triumph over the Islamic State group in Syria in his State of the Union address Tuesday, but U.S. defense officials are increasingly fearful that the militants are simply biding their time until the Americans leave the battlefield as planned.

IS militants have lost territory since Trump's surprise announcement in December that he was pulling U.S. forces out, but military



**U.S. Central Command Commander Gen. Joseph Votel speaks at a Senate Armed Services Committee hearing on Capitol Hill, Tuesday, Feb. 5, 2019, in Washington.**

**Associated Press**

officials warn the fighters could regroup within six months to a year after the Americans leave.

A Defense Department watchdog report released Monday warned of just such a possibility.

The Islamic State group "remains a potent force of battle-hardened and well-disciplined fighters that 'could likely resurge in Syria' absent continued counterterrorism pressure," the report from the inspector general said.

The top commander of U.S. forces in the Middle East, Gen. Joseph Votel, told a Senate committee on Tuesday that of the 34,000 square miles of territory that IS once held, it now controls less than 20 square miles. That figure includes a large swath of desert around Syria villages IS controls.

"It is important to understand that even though this territory has been reclaimed, the fight against ISIS and violent extremists is not over and our mission

has not changed," Votel, commander of U.S. Central Command, told the Senate Armed Services Committee.

"The coalition's hard-won battlefield gains can only be secured by maintaining a vigilant offensive against the now largely dispersed and disaggregated ISIS that retains leaders, fighters, facilitators, resources and the profane ideology that fuels their efforts."

Votel said there are now between 1,000 and 1,500 IS fighters in the small area they still control in the southern part of the Euphrates River Valley near the Iraqi border. The remainder, he said, have "dispersed" and "gone to ground," suggesting they retain the potential to return.

Trump's decision to leave Syria, which he initially said would be rapid but later slowed down, shocked U.S. allies led to the resignations of Defense Secretary Jim Mattis and the top envoy to the anti-IS coalition, Brett McGurk.

Votel was asked at Tuesday's hearing whether he was asked for his advice about a Syria withdrawal before Trump announced his decision.

"I was not consulted," the general said.

The withdrawal will fulfill Trump's goal of bringing troops home from Syria, but military leaders have pushed back for months, arguing that IS remains a threat and could regroup. U.S. policy has been to keep troops in place until the extremists are eradi-

cated.

Fears that IS fighters are making strategic maneuvers ahead of a U.S. pullout could also fuel criticism that Trump is telegraphing his military plans — the same thing he accused President Barack Obama of doing in Afghanistan.

U.S. officials in recent weeks say IS has lost 99.5 percent of its territory and is holding on to fewer than 5 square kilometers of turf in Syria — less than 2 square miles — in the villages of the Middle Euphrates River Valley, where the bulk of the fighters are concentrated. In late November and December that figure had been estimated at between 400 and 600 square kilometers, according to officials briefed on the matter.

But several defense officials said Monday that many fighters fled to ungoverned spaces and other pockets in the north and in the west and are likely hiding out until they can regroup.

Trump said in a weekend interview that the caliphate is "almost knocked out."

"We're at 99 percent right now, we'll be at 100," he said on CBS' "Face the Nation."

U.S. officials say that overall, there are about 2,000 IS militants in Syria.

The Defense Department watchdog report warned that even with the IS forces on the run, the group "is still able to coordinate offensives and counter-offensives, as well as operate as a decentralized insurgency." □

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Democratic members of Congress, including Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, D-N.Y., center, pose for a photo before President Donald Trump delivers his State of the Union address to a joint session of Congress on Capitol Hill in Washington, Tuesday, Feb. 5, 2019.

Associated Press

Continued from Front

Trump made no mention of an emergency declaration in his remarks. And though he offered a lengthy defense of his call for a border wall, declaring, "I will get it built." But he delivered no ultimatums about what it would take for him to sign legislation to keep the government open.

"I am asking you to defend our very dangerous southern border out of love and devotion to our fellow citizens and to our country," he said.

In his speech, Trump also planned to announce details of a second meeting with North Korea's Kim Jong Un, outlining a summit on Feb. 27 and 28 in Vietnam, according to his prepared remarks. Trump has been teasing the meeting in recent weeks. The two met last summer in Singapore, though that meeting only led to a vaguely worded commitment by

the North to denuclearize. As he stood before lawmakers, the president was surrounded by symbols of his emboldened political opposition. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, who was praised by Democrats for her hard-line negotiating during the shutdown, sat behind Trump as he spoke. Many House Democratic women wore white, the color favored by early 20th-century suffragettes. And several senators running for president were also in the audience, including Sens. Kamala Harris of California and Cory Booker of New Jersey.

Another Democratic star, Stacey Abrams, will deliver the party's response to Trump. Abrams narrowly lost her bid in November to become America's first black female governor, and party leaders are aggressively recruiting her to run for U.S. Senate from Georgia.

In excerpts released ahead

of Abrams' remarks, she calls the shutdown a political stunt that "defied every tenet of fairness and abandoned not just our people, but our values."

Trump's address amounted to an opening argument for

his re-election campaign. Polls show he has work to do, with his approval rating falling to just 34 percent after the shutdown, according to a recent survey conducted by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Pub-

lic Affairs Research.

One bright spot for the president has been the economy, which has added jobs for 100 straight months. He said the U.S. has "the hottest economy anywhere in the world." □



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Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., joined at left by Sen. John Barrasso, R-Wyo., speaks to reporters in advance of President Donald Trump's State of the Union speech, on Capitol Hill in Washington, Tuesday, Feb. 5, 2019.

Associated Press

## GOP leader wants border deal with hope that Trump will OK it

By **ANDREW TAYLOR** and **ALAN FRAM**

Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The Senate's top Republican on Tuesday pushed congressional bargainers to reach a border security deal without first getting President Donald Trump's approval, a month after the impulsive president

scuttled an apparent bipartisan deal and triggered a historically long federal shutdown.

Capitol Hill talks to resolve an impasse over Trump's demands for billions of dollars for his long-sought border wall were making progress, participants said. But with lawmakers facing a deadline to complete their work by Feb. 15 or confront a renewed shutdown, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., said he's not seeking Trump's blessing in advance.

McConnell's tactic could remove a significant hurdle confronting the talks. Trump's demands have shifted abruptly on several issues during his two years in the White House, and top Republicans seem to feel that the best course will be for them to focus on reaching a compromise with Democrats.

McConnell told reporters that negotiators "ought to reach an agreement, and then we'll hope that the president finds it worth signing."

That's a break from his stance during the recent 35-day partial federal shutdown, which began after Trump — under pressure from conservative pundits — turned against an agreement to keep agencies open that both parties thought he'd embraced. That closure ended Jan. 25, and during it McConnell insisted that Trump's buy-in would be needed before any agreement could be reached.

Trump is seeking \$5.7 billion for a U.S.-Mexico border wall, but it's clear that the House-Senate negotiations won't approve nearly that much. The Senate put a

\$1.6 billion plan on the table last year, though many House liberals think even that amount is too high.

The developments came in the hours before Trump's annual State of the Union address, in which the president was sure to again call for his long-stalled border wall.

But if Tuesday's developments increase the likelihood of an agreement among the pragmatic lawmakers dominating the talks — who are drawn from the deal-making appropriations committees — it could increase the risk that Trump might scuttle the entire effort if he's not satisfied with the border-security package.

Meanwhile, negotiators are leaning on border-security experts to sort through their options.

While Trump is insisting on physical structures like walls, fences and vehicular barriers, Democrats are focused more on next-generation scanners, additional manpower and help for detained migrants.

"We're looking to see if there's a way to get together in a comprehensive way — whether it's a barrier, whether it's a fence, whether it's technology, whether it's more personnel. I think it might be all of that," Shelby told reporters. A group of House GOP lawmakers returned from a fact-finding trip to Texas, New Mexico and San Diego. Rep. Chuck Fleischmann, R-Tenn., said he came away from the trip with a better sense of what approaches work best in varied locations, but that fences or walls are a key piece of the border security puzzle. □

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# Police: Pilot in fatal California crash had fake records

By JOHN ANTCHAK

Associated Press

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — The man piloting a small plane that broke apart over a Southern California neighborhood had false credentials identifying him as a retired Chicago police officer, authorities said Tuesday.

Antonio Pastini was killed when the twin-engine plane broke up shortly after takeoff and fell in pieces in Yorba Linda, igniting a fire in a home where four people died on Sunday. The cause of the crash has not been determined.

Pastini, 75, was initially identified as a retired officer but Chicago police said there were no records of him working for the department.

The credentials found at the crash site included false retirement papers and a police badge bearing the same number as a badge reported lost in 1978, Chicago police Officer Michelle Tannehill told the Orange County Register.

Orange County sheriff's spokeswoman Carrie Braun said the credentials were not legitimate but the pilot was indeed Pastini. The victims inside the home have yet to be publicly identified.

Aviation safety experts cautioned against drawing early conclusions about the cause of the crash.

"At this stage you don't make assumptions. You



A National Transportation Safety Board worker takes a photo of an engine that came to rest against a house on Crestknoll Dr. in Yorba Linda, Calif on Monday, February 4, 2019.

let the evidence lead you where it leads you," said John Cox, a former commercial pilot and a veteran crash investigator who is head of the consulting firm Safety Operating Systems. National Transportation Safety Board investigators have been collecting parts of the aircraft, the plane's records and information about Pastini, who was described as a commercial pilot with an instrument flight rating.

Preliminary information showed the plane took off around 1:35 p.m. Sunday from Fullerton Municipal Airport, made a left turn and climbed to an altitude of 7,800 feet (2,377 meters) before starting to descend

over Yorba Linda.

Weather was intermittently rainy across Southern California during the weekend, but specific conditions encountered by the flight were not immediately known.

Observers said the plane initially appeared intact

when it fell through a cloud ceiling at an altitude of about 2,000 to 3,000 feet (600 to 900 meters), investigator Maja Smith said.

"Witnesses say that they saw the airplane coming out of a cloud at a very high speed before parts of the airplane such as tail

and subsequently wings starting to break off," she said.

The Cessna 414A has a good reputation, said Cox, who said he has flown similar Cessnas since the 1970s. In-flight breakups are uncommon, and causes can range from metal fatigue to instrument failure and forces induced by the pilot, he said.

He said the breakup may have begun earlier than was apparent to the witnesses.

"Small pieces may have come off that are leading up to the cataclysmic breakup that people see. You need to make sure that the airplane was fully intact when they first see it," he said. "As an investigator you have to be careful about that."

Losing control of an airplane can also lead to a breakup, Cox said.

One of the first things that might fail in that situation, he said, is a horizontal stabilizer — the structures that look like small wings on the tail. □

## Runner survives attack by choking mountain lion to death

By COLLEEN SLEVIN

Associated Press

**DENVER (AP)** —

A mountain lion lunged at a runner on a Colorado trail and bit his face before the man fought back and choked the animal to death, wildlife officials said Tuesday.

The unidentified man was running alone at Horsetooth Mountain Open Space near Fort Collins on Monday when he heard a noise and turned back.

That's when the mountain lion attacked, according to an account from Colorado Parks and Wildlife. The man was hospitalized with serious injuries and was expected to make a full recovery.

The agency said the runner's movement apparently triggered the young lion's hunting instincts. The animal bit the man's face and wrist before he was able to break free and kill the lion. □

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# Trump immigrant crime hotline still faces hurdles, pushback

By **MICHAEL BALSAMO and COLLEEN LONG**

**Associated Press**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — President Donald Trump picked the grandest stage to unveil one of his first immigration initiatives: Appearing before a joint session of Congress a month after taking office, Trump announced the creation of a hotline to help victims of crimes committed by immigrants.

Almost immediately, the Victims of Immigration Crime Engagement hotline was immersed in controversy and confusion.

Trump's critics saw the hotline, known as VOICE, as a cynical stunt that played to his political base, wasting millions of taxpayer dollars and perpetuating the false notion that immigrants are more likely to commit crimes than U.S. citizens. Others wrongly saw it as a hotline for reporting neighbors, colleagues or strangers they suspect are in the United States illegally.

Two years later, the hotline continues on. Its hurdle is to go beyond the political powder keg of the immigration debate and help crime victims in ways that local courts can't, such as providing details about whether their assailants have been deported.

"I would stress no matter what opinion someone has, the fact remains that we are here to help victims,"



In this Sept. 2017 file photo, a flag is waved during an immigration rally outside the White House, in Washington.

the head of the endeavor, Barbara Gonzalez, told The Associated Press. Gonzalez is a longtime civil servant with the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, or ICE.

Though ICE is responsible for arresting and deporting people in the U.S. illegally, Gonzalez stresses that her hotline isn't involved in that. It strives to help victims regardless of their immigration status. Callers aren't asked their status when they call.

Still, callers are warned that they are being recorded and their names, addresses, phone numbers and other information are collected and may be shared

within the Department of Homeland Security. Crime victims who are in the country illegally may be reticent to share that information.

Gonzalez said information on victims is shared with other components on a "need-to-know" basis and their privacy is a concern, but didn't get into specifics on what was shared. It's also not clear how long data is stored.

She said before the hotline was created, crime victims couldn't get information about a suspect's immigration status. State and local officials can provide details of convictions and sentences, but don't know whether a suspect could be deported. They don't have access to ICE data.

That doesn't sway immigration advocates.

"I think the whole premise of it is racist," said Angelica Salas, executive director of the Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights. "It uses their pain and suffering and their legitimate tragedy for a very political goal, which is to create the support for President Trump's anti-immigrant agenda."

While victims of crime should be provided with support and services, the hotline has helped to fuel "the whole sense of fear thy immigrant neighbor," Salas said.

**Associated Press**

Douglas Rivlin, a spokesman for the immigrant advocacy group America's Voice, said the hotline was set up because Trump "wanted to be able to say he was addressing the fictitious immigrant crime-wave he has conjured from his anti-immigrant fever dreams."

The hotline got off to a rocky start. Personal data of callers was accidentally briefly released through a Freedom of Information Request by news outlets. In the first months, most of the calls were obvious hoaxes after someone suggested on Twitter that people call in to report space aliens.

One log entry says a caller reported "an alien who is outside his house and has green skin color."

Other callers decried what they viewed as racist immigration policies by the Trump administration.

The most recent public report includes data from the hotline's April 26, 2017, launch until Sept. 30, 2017, when there were 4,602 calls. Initially, most of the calls — 2,150 out of 3,351 — were unrelated, generally pranks. Toward the end of the period, call volume dropped and most of the calls were reporting crimes. Gonzalez's staff of 27 are stationed around the country and are part of ICE's community engage-

ment office with a budget of \$3.9 million. Hotline calls are taken by operators and routed to the case agents. Callers are greeted with a recording saying the hotline's main purpose is to provide information for victims. Because of privacy laws, they may not be able to help everyone, but they will try, she said.

"We are not a tip line," Gonzalez said.

One caller, a mother of a 20-year-old college student who was raped, said she felt concerned about the hardline politics before she reached out to the hotline. "When you're a victim of crime, none of us gets enough support," she said. "To have an office dedicated to this peculiar intersection of immigration and criminal justice, two systems that don't know how to talk to each other, well, it was just really helpful for me, even though I know how rare it is for an immigrant to commit crime against a citizen."

The woman spoke to AP on condition of anonymity because she did not want to reveal her daughter's identity. Her daughter's attacker pleaded guilty to reduced charges and got five years in prison. The mother didn't get to speak at his parole hearing because she didn't get proper notification, and she was growing increasingly frustrated.

She said she believed that while her daughter was attacked by an immigrant, it's not the norm. But, she still needed help figuring out whether he'd be deported when he finished his sentence, and she was afraid for her daughter's safety. She called the prison, the prosecutors, even her local ICE office; No one knew how to help.

But after she called VOICE, a caseworker found his information, figured out when he was getting released and when he'd be picked up by immigration. The caseworker kept her notified throughout, including after the man was deported in August. □

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## After 20 years police in 2 states link dead mother and son

By JEFFREY COLLINS  
Associated Press

Decades after the unidentified bodies of a woman and a 10-year-old boy were found in separate states beside a Southern interstate highway, investigators now say they were a mother and son and the boy's father has confessed to killing them.

The case was cracked thanks to an online DNA database, help from international police and a consultant whose work led to an arrest in the Golden State Killer investigation, authorities in North Carolina and South Carolina said Tuesday. But investigators in both states said they had never stopped trying to solve the 1998 cases that they never knew were related, separated by 215 miles along Interstate 85.

"I always kept the case file box under my desk, where it was purposefully in my way. Every time I turned, I hit it with my leg. I did this so the little boy couldn't be forgotten," said Orange County, North Carolina, Sheriff's Maj. Tim Horne, who worked the case from the beginning.

North Carolina authorities even enlisted experts to create a sketch and a bust reconstructing the appearance of the child. But despite widespread dissemination, no one was able to identify him. Investigators had no idea the cases were linked until December 2018, when consultant Dr. Barbara Rae-Venter reviewed the latest DNA tests on the boy's body,



Myoung Hwa Cho is shown on a poster provided by the Spartanburg County, South Carolina, Sheriff's Office.

Orange County Sheriff Charles Blackwood said in a statement. Rae-Venter's work with online DNA databases had earlier helped lead to an arrest of a man in California charged with 26 counts of murder and kidnapping in California in the 1970s and 1980s. The boy's remains were found in September 1998 by workers mowing grass on a frontage road near I-85 in Durham, North Carolina, Blackwood said. DNA testing showed he had Asian and Caucasian parents. Rae-Venter matched the child's DNA to DNA from a close relative who had submitted the information to an online database. After contacting the relative, investigators learned the boy was Robert "Bobby" Adam Whitt, who was born in Michigan and raised in Ohio, Blackwood said. He

also said they were given strong evidence his mother — who had disappeared the same year as her son — was also dead.

Meanwhile, deputies in South Carolina had found an unidentified woman whose nude body was dumped in the woods beside I-85 in May 1998, Spartanburg County Sheriff's Lt. Kevin Bobo said. Her hands had been bound and she had been suffocated. After DNA testing confirmed the victims were



federal prison on unrelated charges. After being questioned several times he confessed to killing his wife and son, Bobo said.

Authorities aren't releasing his name because he hasn't been charged in the killings yet. Charges may not be filed until investigators figure out exactly where the two victims were killed, Bobo said. Investigators think the woman and her son were killed somewhere else and dumped beside the interstate.

Relatives of the slain pair say they had been led to believe that the woman took her child back to Korea to raise him.

In a statement released through the Orange County Sheriff's Office, the family said, "Our hearts are broken into a million pieces. We had no idea that Bobby and Myoung Hwa were no longer with us and had not been for a very long time." □

Associated Press

mother and son, investigators in the U.S. enlisted the help of Korean authorities and international police to identify the woman as Myoung Hwa Cho.

Cho's husband, the boy's father, is serving time in

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Luxury villa was recently constructed and is built on 857 m<sup>2</sup> / 9169 sf. of land. The total constructed area is 240 m<sup>2</sup> / 2568 sf. Fully fenced-in and comes with all amenities. Livingroom with open kitchen with built-in appliances. 4 bed, 2.5 bath, covered back porch.



# Apartment inferno kills 10; deadliest Paris fire since 2005

By **THOMAS ADAMSON**  
**LORI HINNANT**  
**Associated Press**

**PARIS (AP)** — Paris' deadliest fire in over a decade killed at least 10 people Tuesday as flames engulfed a nine-story apartment building, sending residents to the roof and clambering across balconies to escape.

A 40-year-old woman who lived in the building, said to have a history of psychiatric problems, was arrested nearby and held on suspicion of having set the fire not long before. French police opened a criminal investigation for voluntary arson resulting in death.

Multiple neighbors said they heard the suspect and her neighbor, an off-duty firefighter, arguing over the woman's music before the fire broke out.

Police responding to the dispute stopped by the woman's apartment. The firefighter and his girlfriend told officers they were leaving to sleep elsewhere in peace and thought the neighbor had lost her mind



In this image provided on Tuesday, Feb. 5, 2012 by the Brigade de Sapeurs-Pompiers de Paris (Paris Fire Brigade) a fire rages through the top floors of an apartment building in Paris, France. **Associated Press**

and one day there would be an accident because of her, according to a police report seen by The Associated Press.

In an interview with Le Parisien newspaper, the 22-year-old firefighter said he returned to the building a few minutes later,

shortly after midnight, hoping the woman had gone. Instead, he ran into her in the stairwell, which was already beginning to smell of smoke.

"She wished me good luck, telling me that I loved flames," he recalled in the interview.

Another resident later told him the woman put paper and wood in front of his apartment door, the firefighter told Le Parisien, which did not give his name.

Survivors described a chaos of smoke and flames, and the young firefighter said he ran upstairs to try and evacuate the building. One neighbor recalled clambering out of her eighth-floor apartment and over balconies to reach safety.

"I climbed across several balconies, with nothing beneath, and then was backed into a corner. There were people climbing hand-over-hand to get to where I was and escape the flames," said a resident identified only as Claire, her eyes wide with shock soon after her rescue.

Another resident, an off-duty police officer, threw on clothes and rang doorbell after doorbell, trying desperately to alert his neighbors.

"I couldn't save everyone. I can't forgive myself," the man identified as Fabrice told France Info radio, adding that smoke and flames prevented him from climbing higher than the fourth floor.

Jacqueline Ravier, who lives on the same street as the apartment building,

described seeing a young man blackened by smoke and a woman motionless on the ground.

For hours, she said, flames shot out from the top of the building as smoke-covered victims fled. Shaken residents were brought to her building and the one next door.

Interior Minister Christophe Castaner spoke to reporters at the scene Tuesday morning, as plumes of smoke speckled the sky.

"I want to salute the huge mobilization of the Paris firefighters," he said. "More than 250 people arrived immediately and, throughout the night, saved over 50 people in truly exceptional conditions."

It was the deadliest fire in Paris since the April 2005 hotel fire near the capital's famed Opera that killed 24 people. Over 30 people were being treated for "relatively" light injuries, Castaner said. Among the injured were at least eight firefighters.

Authorities suspect the fire resulted from a criminal act, he said.

Officials said suspect had "a history of psychiatric problems."

A judicial official, who spoke on condition of anonymity as an investigation was ongoing, told the AP the woman was drunk when officers detained her. A police patrol responding to a trash can fire around the same time spotted the woman with her hand in another trash can, according to a second police report obtained by The Associated Press. She was staring at the firetrucks streaming toward the building, the document states. The young firefighter said he saw her as well.

"She was waiting to see what would happen," he said in the newspaper interview.

The document says the officers put the woman under brief surveillance and detained her at 12:45 a.m. after she allegedly tied a scarf around a car's rear-view mirror and raised a cigarette lighter to it. □

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## UK prime minister vows no return to hard border with Ireland

By **GREGORY KATZ**  
**JILL LAWLESS**

**Associated Press**

**LONDON (AP)** — British Prime Minister Theresa May told business leaders in Northern Ireland on Tuesday that she is seeking changes to the U.K.'s withdrawal agreement with the European Union, but not the total removal of the Irish border provision that is the most contentious part of the deal.

Seeking to ease fears about the return of customs posts and vehicle checks, May said during a visit to Belfast that the British government is committed to preventing the construction of a physical border between EU member Ireland and the U.K.'s Northern Ireland after Britain leaves the European Union.

The prime minister said she was in Belfast "to affirm my commitment to delivering a Brexit that ensures no return to a hard border between Northern Ireland and Ireland — which is un-



**Britain's Prime Minister Theresa May speaks with business representatives in Belfast, northern Ireland, Tuesday Feb. 5, 2019.**

shakable."

She also emphasized the government's support for the Good Friday agreement, the 1998 treaty that largely ended decades of violence in Northern Ireland known as "the Troubles."

May's words of reassur-

ance did little to solve her Brexit border dilemma.

Britain is scheduled to leave the EU on March 29, but no withdrawal agreement has been approved because Britain's Parliament voted down May's plan last month, in part because

of concerns about the border plan, known as the backstop. It is a safeguard mechanism that would keep the U.K. in a customs union with the EU to remove the need for checks along the border until a permanent new trading re-

**Associated Press**

lationship is in place.

The border area was a flashpoint during the decades of conflict that cost 3,700 lives. The free flow of people and goods across the near-invisible border today underpins both the local economy and Northern Ireland's peace process.

But many pro-Brexit British lawmakers fear the backstop will trap Britain in regulatory lockstep with the EU, and say they won't vote for the EU divorce deal unless it is removed.

EU leaders, however, insist the withdrawal agreement the bloc struck with May's government late last year can't be reopened.

"The withdrawal agreement is the best way to ensure an orderly withdrawal by the U.K.," Irish Prime Minister Leo Varadkar said Tuesday. "We want the future relationship between the EU and the U.K. to be as close, comprehensive and ambitious as possible, so that the backstop will never be needed." □

## Turkey, Greece stress need for dialogue

By **SUZAN FRASER**  
**Associated Press**

**ANKARA, Turkey (AP)** — The president of Turkey and the prime minister of Greece agreed Tuesday on the need to keep "channels of dialogue" open between their countries, which have come to the brink of war three times since the early 1970s and remain divided over an array of issues.

Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras and Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan made the conciliatory comments while Tsipras was in Ankara. His two-day visit got off to a shaky start when Turkey put up bounties for the capture of eight servicemen who fled to Greece following a failed 2016 coup.

But unlike Erdogan's 2017 trip to Athens — when both sides publicly aired grievances — the two leaders on Tuesday focused on dialogue and building economic ties.



**Turkey's President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, right, shakes hands with Greece's Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras during their meeting in Ankara, Tuesday, Feb. 5, 2019.**

"If I had not been able to pick up the phone, and the president had not picked up the phone to get in touch, we would have very likely found ourselves often ... faced with a dangerous escalation," Tsipras said. "So I'm glad that there is this level of communication and sincerity between us." Tsipras added during a joint

news conference with the Turkish president the neighboring NATO allies had agreed to take steps to try and ease tensions from decades-old territorial disputes in the Aegean Sea. He did not elaborate. Regarding the Mediterranean island nation of Cyprus, which has been ethnically split into Greek and

Turkish sides since the 1970s, the prime minister called for a "fair and lasting" settlement.

Tensions have flared over gas exploration off Cyprus. Turkey insists that gas exploration by Cyprus breaches its rights and those of Turkish Cypriots to potential hydrocarbon deposits.

"I believe that we, as Turkey, can peacefully solve all issues with Greece on the basis of fairness," Erdogan said.

However, Erdogan stressed that Turkey expects more cooperation from Greece in returning criminal suspects, saying the country should not become a safe-haven for coup-plotters.

"Of course, coup-plotters are not welcome in Greece," Tsipras responded, adding that his government had to respect the decisions of Greek courts that ruled against extraditing the Turkish servicemen. Before Tsipras set foot in

Turkey, state-run Anadolu Agency reported the Turkish Interior Ministry had added 74 officers to the list of people wanted for alleged roles in the coup attempt.

The list includes the eight servicemen who escaped to Greece in a military helicopter soon after the July 2016 coup attempt. They have denied involvement. Turkey is offering 4 million Turkish lira (some \$770,000) for the capture of each of the eight servicemen, the news agency reported.

In Greece, Giorgos Koumoutsakos, an opposition lawmaker with the New Democracy party who is responsible for foreign affairs, accused Turkey of "a new provocative move" to undermine Tsipras' visit.

"It has placed a bounty on the eight Turkish servicemen, disregarding the final decisions of the independent Greek justice system which has granted them asylum," he said. □



# Egypt debates motion to extend presidential term limits

By **SAMY MAGDY**

**Associated Press**

**CAIRO (AP)** — Egypt's parliament advanced a proposal on Tuesday to amend the constitution in a way that could allow President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi to stay in office well beyond the end of his current term in 2022.

El-Sissi led the 2013 military overthrow of an elected but divisive Islamist president and was elected the following year. He has presided over an unprecedented crackdown on dissent, and was re-elected last year after all potentially serious challengers were jailed or pressured to exit the race.

A constitutional amendment to extend el-Sissi's rule would add to concerns that the country is slipping back into authoritarianism eight years after a pro-democracy uprising ended Hosni Mubarak's nearly three-decade rule.

Parliament speaker Ali Abdel-Al said two-thirds of the general committee endorsed the proposed amendments. The 596-seat assembly — which is packed with el-Sissi supporters — will take a final vote on Feb. 17. A national referendum would need to be held to amend the constitution.

A draft of the proposed amendments, obtained by The Associated Press,



In this Jan. 10, 2019 file photo, Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi meets with U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, in Cairo, Egypt.

shows concerted efforts by the pro-government "Supporting Egypt" coalition to consolidate el-Sissi's power. The 64-year-old leader could be allowed to run for a third and fourth six-year term, potentially extending his rule to 2034.

The motion was submitted Sunday after approval by a required fifth of the chamber's 596 lawmakers, the vast majority of whom are el-Sissi supporters.

"In order to maintain stability and to complete the development plans, there is a proposal to extend

the presidential term to six years," said Abdel-Hadi el-Qassabi, head of the majority coalition in the parliament, which is sponsoring the move.

Abdel-Al said Sunday that the amendments "are rooted in the interest of both the state and the Egyptian people."

"Conditions on the ground, the situation in the region and the nation's circumstances have proven that (the current term limits) are unsuitable," he said.

Pro-government media figures have been arguing for

months that two terms are not enough for el-Sissi to fulfil his ambitious vision of modernizing the country, including overhauling its economy and defeating Islamic militants.

Yasser Rizaq, chairman of the state-owned al-Akhbar daily and a close confidant of el-Sissi, has argued in recent columns that constitutional amendments were necessary to prevent Islamist parties from gaining power.

The Muslim Brotherhood group won a series of free and fair elections after the

2011 uprising, culminating in one of its senior figures, Mohammed Morsi, winning the presidency in 2012. Morsi's rule proved divisive, however, and the military removed him from power amid mass protests a year later. Authorities have since outlawed the Brotherhood as a terrorist group and arrested thousands of its members.

The government has also jailed a number of prominent secular activists. It has banned unauthorized protests, heavily restricted civil society groups and blocked hundreds of web-sites.

El-Sissi has repeatedly said he would not stay in office any longer than Egyptians wanted him to and that he was not in favor of amending the constitution's term limits. But opposition parties and media have come under intense pressure during his rule, and political figures who have challenged him have been jailed, fled into self-imposed exile or withdrawn from public life.

The proposed amendments also include the introduction of the role of vice president, a revived senate and the enshrining of a quota of 25 percent for women in the House of Deputies. Also included is "adequate" representation for workers, farmers, youth and people with special needs in the legislature. □

# Yemen's government, rebels meet on stalled prisoner exchange

By **AHMED AL-HAJ**

**Associated Press**

**SANAA, Yemen (AP)** — Yemen's government and the

Houthi rebels met in Jordan on Tuesday for talks on implementing a stalled prisoner exchange agreed upon



The Houthi rebel delegation, right, and delegates of the internationally recognized Yemeni government hold talks on Yemen, in Amman, Jordan, Tuesday, Feb. 5, 2019.

**Associated Press**

in December.

The U.N. envoy Martin Griffiths said the three-day meeting aims to "finalize the list of prisoners and detainees to be released and exchanged."

He stressed that a breakthrough in the prisoners' deal would give momentum to the rocky talks over Yemen's crucial port of Hodeida, where a U.N.-brokered truce has witnessed multiple breaches.

"Success in this regard is not only of huge importance for those who will be released and returned to their families, but also for

the broader political process in which we are engaged together," Griffiths said.

A Red Cross official said Monday that the deal has stalled because each side is demanding the release of more prisoners than the other claims to be holding. Dominik Stillhart, operations director of the International Committee of the Red Cross, said each side submitted a list with 8,000 names, but the other side says they are holding a "significantly lower" number.

Yemen was plunged into

war in 2014 when the Iran-aligned rebels captured the capital, Sanaa.

A Saudi-led coalition intervened a year later, fighting alongside government troops.

Experts say that the deal signed in Sweden is problematic because of its vague wording on which force will take control over Hodeida, which is currently held by the Houthis. As for the prisoners' deal, there were no guarantees that the Houthis would stop arresting civilians from their homes to use as bargaining chips. □





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# Asia welcomes Year of the Pig with banquets, temple visits

Associated Press

**BEIJING (AP)** — Asia welcomed the lunar Year of the Pig on Tuesday with visits to temples, family banquets and the world's biggest travel spree.

Celebrations took place throughout the region, from Beijing and Seoul to Hanoi and Singapore.

The streets of Beijing and other major Chinese cities were quiet and empty after millions of people left to visit relatives or travel abroad during the year's biggest family holiday.

Families gathered at home for multigenerational banquets. Companies, shops and government offices closed for official holidays that ranged from two days in South Korea to a week in China.

Worshippers stood in line for hours at Hong Kong's Wong Tai Sin Temple to welcome the new year by lighting incense.

Lana Wong, a prominent Hong Kong actress, wore a pig costume for the event. "My first wish is for world



A woman holds sticks of incense as she prays at the Lama Temple in Beijing, Tuesday, Feb. 5, 2019.  
Associated Press

peace," said Wong, 88. "Everyone has food to eat, employment and houses to live in. The elderly also hope the government will take better care of them."

In Beijing, performers in traditional Qing dynasty robes strummed zithers for a reenactment at sunrise of a

sacrificial ceremony at the Chinese capital's Temple of Earth park.

An actor portraying an emperor bowed before an altar as dozens of people in ceremonial dress behind him.

Acrobats and drummers also performed. Vendors sold toys branded with the

British cartoon character Peppa Pig, which is enjoying a surge of popularity for the Year of the Pig.

"My wishes for new year are a promotion, a raise and finding a boyfriend," said a spectator, Cui Di, a 28-year-old employee of a foreign company.

The holiday in mainland China is marked by the biggest annual travel boom as hundreds of millions of people visit their home towns or travel abroad.

The railway ministry forecast mainland travelers would make 413 million trips during the three-week period around the holiday.

Chinese set off billions of fireworks to celebrate the new year. An explosion at an illegal fireworks shop in southern China killed five people early Tuesday. Investigators said it was triggered by fireworks set off by the shopkeeper outside the shop.

In Bangkok, people lit incense sticks and burned paper money and other symbolic offerings for deceased relatives despite government appeals to avoid contributing to smog. Some shopkeepers sold symbolic ballots to burn as offerings following official promises of an election this year, the first after four years of military rule. □

# Japan finance minister Aso sorry for criticizing childless

By MARI YAMAGUCHI

Associated Press

**TOKYO (AP)** — Japan's Finance Minister Taro Aso has reluctantly apologized for saying childless people are to blame for the country's rising social security costs and its aging and declining population.

"If it made some people feel uncomfortable, I apologize," Aso said Tuesday after drawing complaints over a comment he made during the weekend at a seminar in Fukuoka, his constituency in southwestern Japan. The gaffe-prone Aso, a 78-year-old former

prime minister, is among conservative lawmakers in Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's government who have at times blamed the elderly or childless for long-term demographic trends.

"There are lots of strange people who say the elderly people are to blame, but that is wrong. The problem is those who don't have children," he told the audience.

The comment was nearly the same as one he made in 2014 that also drew criticism. Others have made similar comments that many found offensive. In

2007, former health minister Hakuo Yamagisawa called women "birth-giving machines." In 2017, another senior ruling party lawmaker, Akiko Santo, said the government should consider awarding women who produced four or more children.

According to the latest government statistics, the number of births in 2018 fell to 921,000, the lowest since Japan began recording such statistics in 1899. Japan's total population fell by 448,000 people, a record decline, to 126 million. □



Japanese Finance Minister Taro Aso speaks during a budget committee meeting at the lower house of the parliament in Tokyo Tuesday, Feb. 5, 2019.

Associated Press



# Judge approves massive Puerto Rico debt restructuring deal

By **DANICA COTO**

**Associated Press**

**SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)**

— A federal bankruptcy judge approved a major debt restructuring plan for Puerto Rico on Monday in the first deal of its kind for the U.S. territory since the island's government declared nearly four years ago that it was unable to repay its public debt.

The agreement involves more than \$17 billion worth of government bonds backed by a sales-and-use tax, with officials saying it will help the government save an average of \$456 million a year in debt service. The deal allows Puerto Rico to cut its sales-tax-backed debt by 32 percent but requires the government to pay \$32 billion in the next 40 years as part of the restructuring.

Senior bondholders, who hold nearly \$8 billion, will be first to collect, receiving 93 percent of the value of the original bonds. Junior bondholders, many of whom are individual Puerto Rican investors and overall hold nearly \$10 billion, will



In this Sept. 20, 2018 file photo, people gather outside the White House in Washington, during a vigil commemorating the one-year anniversary of Hurricane Maria hitting Puerto Rico.

**Associated Press**

collect last and recover only 54 percent.

"Puerto Rico has taken an important step toward its total financial recovery," Gov. Ricardo Rossello said in a statement. "This represents more than \$400 million annually that will be available for services in critical areas such as health, education, pension pay-

ments, and public safety, in compliance with other obligations."

The deal was previously approved by bondholders but prompted hundreds of people to write and email Judge Laura Taylor-Swain, who held a hearing on the issue nearly three weeks ago, to express concerns about the government's

ability to make those payments and the effect it will have on public services. In her ruling, she wrote that she reviewed and carefully considered all those messages before making a decision. "Many of the formal and informal objections raised serious and considered concerns about the Commonwealth's future

ability to provide properly for the citizens of Puerto Rico who depend upon it," she wrote. "They are not, however, concerns upon which the Court can properly act in making its decision ... the Court is not free to impose its own view of what the optimal resolution of the dispute could have been." A U.S. government report issued last year said Puerto Rico's public finance problems are partly a result of government officials who overestimated revenue, overspent, did not fully address public pension funding shortfalls and borrowed money to balance budgets. The Government Accountability Office also reviewed 20 of Puerto Rico's largest bond issuances over nearly two decades and found that 16 were issued solely to repay or re-finance debt and fund operations, something many states prohibit.

Taylor-Swain's ruling said the compromise is "admittedly, deeply disappointing to countless citizens of Puerto Rico and investors in Commonwealth bonds." □

# Costa Rica ex-leader Oscar Arias accused of sexual assault

By **JAVIER CORDOBA**

**Associated Press**

**SAN JOSE, Costa Rica (AP)**

— Costa Rican former President and Nobel Peace Prize laureate Oscar Arias was enveloped in scandal Tuesday after a sexual assault complaint was brought against him by a nuclear disarmament activist.

Arias denied the allegation, saying he has never acted against the will of any woman and has fought for gender equality during his career.

According to the publication *Semanario Universidad*, the woman said the incident took place Dec. 1, 2014, at the ex-president's home in the capital, San Jose, where she had come for a meeting related to her cause.

She told the publication that Arias grabbed her from behind, touched her



In this Nov. 13, 2015 file photo, Costa Rican 1987 Nobel peace laureate and former president of Costa Rica, Oscar Arias, looks at the media during the opening ceremony of the XV World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates at the University in Barcelona, Spain.

**Associated Press**

breasts, began to kiss her and penetrated her with his fingers, while she reminded him that he was a married man.

"I do not remember well what he replied to me, but he continued to touch me, he inserted his fingers into my vagina and touched

me everywhere and kissed me," the woman was quoted as saying. "Then he told me to wait a bit and he left the office. I didn't know what to do. I felt trapped in that moment."

*Semanario Universidad* posted a partial image of the criminal complaint

filed Monday afternoon that names the suspected crime as rape.

Responding to an Associated Press request for comment, the prosecutor's office acknowledged receiving "a complaint against a person with the last name Arias for a presumed sexual crime," but said it was prevented by law from releasing more information.

According to *Semanario Universidad*, the woman — who was then 30 — said Arias proposed meeting elsewhere, and she used that as an excuse to leave, later telling him she had gone to a meeting with an adviser to a then-lawmaker. She asked them to let her go to the National Assembly building for fear the word would get back to Arias if she did not.

The lawmaker and the adviser confirmed to *Semanario Universidad* that

the activist had told them about the alleged incident and was visibly upset.

"I have never acted in disrespect of the will of any woman, much less in the case of their freedom to relate with another person," Arias said in a brief statement. "In my public life I have promoted gender equality since I consider it an indispensable means to achieve a more just and equitable society for all people."

The statement added that since there was a complaint against him, he would have no further public comment and would mount his defense in court. Arias was president of Costa Rica from 1986 to 1990 and again in 2006-2010. He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1987 for his efforts to end civil wars in nearby Central American nations. □



# LOCAL



## Results Sexual Harassment at Work



**ORANJESTAD — About Workplace Harassment (AWH) presented their zero-measurement research about sexual harassment in the workplace among the working population in Aruba in 2016. Last year they've held a follow-up research, which shows some interesting developments like the influence of #MeToo. Thursday night you will have the opportunity to hear the results and more during a free lecture at the University of Aruba, starting at 6.30 PM at Room #4.**

During this lecture Karin Bosman, founder and CEO of AWH, will discuss these results in comparison with Curacao and the rest of the world. Next to facts and figures Karin will share why existing approaches will never be sufficient to combat against any form of workplace harassment and how we endanger this topic by hiding it by umbrella naming and using words

that soften the issue, which isolates victims and bystanders. In this way it remains a taboo on sexual and other forms of harassment. Within this lecture she will explain about the necessary need for a stronger and different focus, a clearer division of responsibilities, wider ownership, which will create broader support to tackle harassment.

### Speaker

Karin Bosman is the CEO of AWH. She is an International speaker, experience expert and is politically active on the topic sexual workplace harassment.

With the lectures, workshops and trainings of AWH she creates awareness, which is needed to understand the process of sexual workplace harassment. She wants to illustrate how bystanders can affect this process in a positive way and that the effect of the harassment does not stop at the victim but continues in companies and organizations.

### Safety App

Karin Bosman is also the Co-founder of STFRA (Foundation Report App). This organization makes the reporting of undesirable behavior approachable by providing AWH's smartphone app Report that guarantees safety and inde-

pendent appropriate action. It is the foundation's ambition to make a relevant contribution to the individual's right to a safe and healthy work environment. Violence, aggression, bullying, discrimination and sexual harassment have one thing in common. Its unwanted behavior, unwanted manners in the workplace that might affect you, your sister or your son. It's actually causing occupational disease number one since it's the primary cause of work stress. Finally after all the research and shocking conclusions there are practical solutions. AWH, STFRA and Medwork joint forces to offer every employee and labor professional a tool and associated legal protection. Fortunately some complex issues have simple solutions. This new tool, the smartphone application Report makes sure unwanted manners in the workplace, and confidential counselors being reproved by management, belong to the past. Report ensures the fact that the complainant who files the report is always in control. What is reported, when and to whom. This approachable tool and the fact that both STFRA and Medwork are there to assist the complainant and confidential counselor make it a unique and solid combination which will ensure an enormous improvement in creating a safe work



environment in Aruba!

Karin has written the book 'Spitting on Hans' tosti' which is based on a true story about (sexual) harassment in the workplace. This book highlights every disgraceful aspect of workplace harassment, the humiliation, how colleagues react and how it effects the work environment when workplace harassment is being ignored. For more information about this book, please click on this link: <https://www.amazon.com/Spitting-Hans-tosti-groped-preyed-ebook/dp/B07KDYPKXZ>.

For more information about Karin Bosman and About workplace Harassment, please visit: <http://aboutworkplaceharassment.com/about/index.html>. □

## Aruba to Me

**ORANJESTAD – We would like to portrait you! By inviting you to send us your favorite vacation picture while enjoying our Happy Island. Complete the sentence: Aruba to me is ..... Send your picture with that text (including your name and where you are from) to: [news@arubatoday.com](mailto:news@arubatoday.com) and we will publish your vacation memory.**

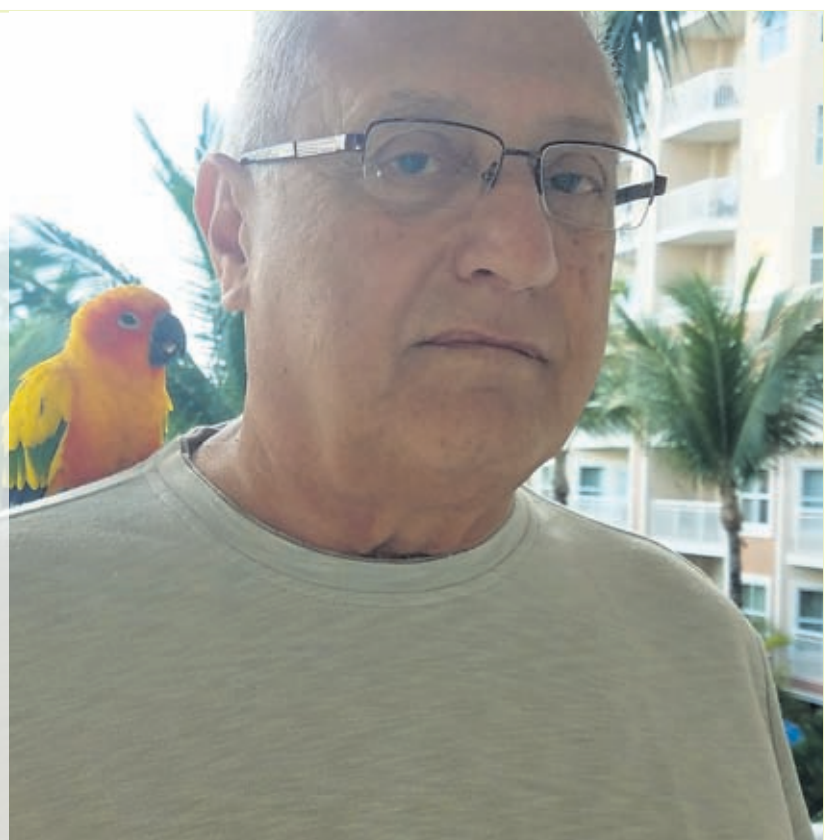
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Last but not least: check out our website and Facebook page! Thank you for supporting our free newspaper, we strive to make you a happy reader every day again.

For today's newspaper we received a great picture from:

**Bill Romeo from Waretown New Jersey. He wrote:**

A little feathered friend came to visit us on our balcony for breakfast at the Marriott Surf Club. At first he startled us and caused me to spill my cereal all over the deck. He then flew off. As I was cleaning the deck he reappeared on my shoulder. He was so friendly I let him stay. He ate a slice of banana off my shoulder. We called animal rescue and they got her back to her owner. We are going to miss you Molly! □





# Tickle your Taste Buds with Tierra del Sol

**NOORD** — There is a place on the Northern part of the island that makes up for your perfect dream night. The location: the island's rugged north coast and blue ocean forming your panoramic from Tierra del Sol's restaurant, either from the poolside outdoor terrace or from the elegant indoor restaurant. The offering: From breakfast to dinner excellent cuisine, friendly service, and a gorgeous setting, but now even more special with the NEW 'All You Can Taste' concept – on from Tuesdays to Saturdays from 6PM – 10PM.

Tune in for an experience that will give dining another perspective. We are not talking about the standard 3-course menu, but about a journey through taste-land. The

Restaurant at Tierra del Sol invites you to taste as many tapa-sized items as you wish from their extensive fine dining menu.

Fresh Oysters, Tuna Crab Duo, Bruchetta Caprese, Portobello Mushroom, Smoked Beef Tataki or Chicken Curry Waldorf Salad are only some of the welcoming dishes. For the main courses you can decide for Skirt Steak, Duck Venison Duo or Pumpkin Risotto among others and to top it off with a sweet surrender a Duo of Quesillo & Brownie, Melon Martini or Cheese-cake are one of the choices. This all for a special price and including a glass of sangria. Indulge into this culinary discovery at the most romantic scenery of our One Happy Island. □



## Monetary Policy (December 2018)



**ORANJESTAD** — During its meeting of December 20, 2018, the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of the Centrale Bank van Aruba (CBA) decided to keep the reserve requirement at 11.0 percent and to uphold the advance rate at 1.0 percent, after reviewing the most recent economic and monetary data. The following information and analysis were considered in reaching this decision, based on October 2018 data.

### International reserves

Total international reserves (including revaluation differences) declined by Afl. 28.0 million in October 2018, the second consecutive contraction. Compared to December 2017, the level of international reserves decreased by Afl. 14.6 million (−0.8 percent), despite an Afl. 9.2 million increase of the official reserves (+0.6 percent). Consequently, the international reserves and the official reserves stood at, respectively, Afl. 1,809.6 million and Afl. 1,658.4 million at end-October 2018.

### Credit developments

The year-to-date 2.4 percent rise in overall commercial bank credit was mainly driven by housing mortgages (+6.5 percent) and business loans (+1.7 percent). A 9.5 percent decline was registered in personal loans (a component of consumer credit).

### Inflation

In October 2018, the CPI index rose by 4.2 percent, compared to the corresponding month

a year earlier. On balance, this was mainly the result of the increase in the BBO-rate and higher prices in the transport and food components. The twelve-month average inflation rate amounted to 2.7 percent in October 2018. The twelve-month average core inflation rate (excluding energy and food) stood at 1.4 percent in October 2018.

### Tourism

During the first ten months of 2018, tourism development indicators noted upturns, as growth was registered in tourist arrivals (+1.3 percent), visitor nights (+1.4 percent), cruise visitor arrivals (+5.8 percent), and tourism receipts recorded at the commercial banks (+9.7 percent).

### Money supply

In October 2018, money supply registered an increase of Afl. 83.3 million to Afl. 4,323.2 million compared to December 2017, resulting from expansions in the net domestic assets (+Afl. 71.8 million) and in the net foreign assets (+Afl. 11.5 million, excluding revaluation differences). □





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## The Aruba Tourism Authority honor loyal visitors on the island

**EAGLE BEACH** — Recently, Kimberley Richardson of the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure to honor Aruba's loyal and friendly visitors as Distinguished Visitor and Goodwill Ambassador. The Distinguished visitor certificate is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism, as a token of appreciation to the guests who visit Aruba 10 years and more consecutively. The Goodwill Ambassador certificate is presented to guests who visit Aruba 20 years and more consecutively.

The honorees were Alan and Lavonne Babcock, Donna and George Gaulin, and Nick and Pam Palaian.

This group of wonderful people stated that they love the island very much, especially for the year-round sunny weather, nice sandy beaches, delicious variety of foods, and Aruba's warm and friendly people.

Ms. Richardson together with the representatives of the Divi Phoenix presented the certificate to the honorees, and also handed over some presents and thanked them for choosing Aruba as their favorite vacation destination and as their home away from home. □





## Feeling Sick during vacation?

# At Your Service: Experienced Doctor & Pharmacy under one Roof



**PALM BEACH** — Feeling sick is a miserable thing during vacation. This is the time of the year you should enjoy and relax, so staying in a hotel room bed with a sunstroke, skin allergy, ear infection or intestinal problems can be a bummer. The best thing to do is to recover as soon as possible, and Dr. Lili Beke of the Aruba Walk-in Clinic, together with Palm Beach Service Pharmacy are a one-stop-shopping solution.

**A Walk-In Clinic to Walk To**  
First of all she is calm, kind and understanding. Personal touch is her trade mark and with more than 35 years of experience as a medical doctor she knows what's going on. Doctor Beke is located in Palm Beach, at the door steps of the hotel area and her clinic is appropriately named the Aruba Walk-In Clinic. "I'd like to put myself in the shoes of the visitor. Being in a strange place, sometimes far from family or even alone and



feeling sick. You can feel lost and disorientated. I can understand that and try to give them comprehension and a welcome feeling while examining them. So they leave with a smile, even if they feel a bit sick." The doctor speaks seven languages: English, Dutch, German, French, Italian, Spanish and Papiamentu, meaning she can attend to almost any tourist from all over the world. "You can come in without an appointment and we have an emergency number that works 24/7, if necessary I will visit the patient where he/she is staying. We attend patients every day!" Her philosophy is as follows: As long as you enjoy what you are doing and like to help people, this profession is very rewarding." It sounds like the perfect place to heal.



### Pharmacy & Drug Store with a Recipe for Success

Two quality parties that work together can only be a good thing. After you pick up your prescription at Dr. Beke's practice, you can go to the Pharmacy, right next door. The collaboration between these two results in a quick, efficient and quality service. It's just what you need when you feel the only thing you want is healing. Lennert van der Poel, general manager of the Pharmacy, which is part of a Group of 5 pharmacies, points out that convenience is not their only unique asset. "We carry a wide variety of medicines from the US, but most of the medicines come from the EU. The prices in the EU are considerably lower than in the U.S." All medicine are European registered with the same standard as U.S. products. "The law in the States allows visitors to get medicines here for the use of six months and many repeated guests or time share owners do so. This saves them a lot of money. It is however mandatory to have a prescription from a local doctor", says van der Poel. Most common medicines requested by visitors are antibiotic, pain killers and anti-allergy medications.

Naturally we wish you the healthiest, most wonderful vacation of your life on our Happy Island. But .... In case you are in need of a doctor and a pharmacy, just turn around, walk in and feel welcome to be cured! ☐

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## Today's Happening



## A weekly calendar with a selection of what's going on in Aruba



### Wednesday 6

#### Pre-final Caiso & Soca Monarch

- From amateurs to veterans the festival is filled with high quality Caribbean Music by musicians of all ages battling to become Aruba's 65th Carnival Caiso & Soca Monarch King or Queen. A five night event with the Grand Final to take place on Saturday February 9th, 2019.
- From 7:00 PM till 2:00 AM
- Carnival Village, San Nicolas
- Facebook Stichting Musica

### Thursday 7

#### Aruba Ray's Comedy

- Comedians show with stars from America's Got talent, Tonight Show & Comedy Central
- From 8:30 PM
- Marriot Resort & Stellaris Casino- Amsterdam Ballroom
- Facebook Aruba Ray's Comedy



### Friday 8

#### Golf Tournament, clinics and lessons

- Enjoy a relaxing day the Divi Links playing some golf in this beautiful weather. Perfect your golf swing at The Links at Divi Aruba. This beautifully landscaped, 9-hole course is located right on our resort and surrounded by numerous vacation villas. The Links is open to the public.
- From 8:00 AM
- The links at Divi Aruba
- Facebook The Links at Divi Aruba



### Saturday 9

#### Children's Parade Noord

- Park your car at the side of the road in Noord and enjoy a few hours of a great parade. Enjoy the different Costumes, road pieces, body pieces and the happy faces of the children all dancing to the carnival beats.
- From 12:00 PM till 6:00 PM
- Starts at Bubali Shopping center direction Centro di Bario Noord
- Facebook clickcarnival.com

### Sunday 10

#### Trail Run Hoka One One Aruba Walk & Run 2019

- Over 500 runners and walkers of all ages registered for this big event. It's a 5.6km run/walk in the nature. Kids can also take part at this event at the 2km run.
- From 6:30 PM
- Cunucu 297, Frenchmen Pass
- Facebook Viperstrong



### Monday 11

#### Cultural Night at Paseo Herencia

- Cultural show enriched with our local music, local food and local ambience and a lovely water show.
- Starts at 8:00 PM
- Paseo Herencia Mall
- Facebook Paseo Herencia

### Tuesday 12

#### Asi es mi Peru Restaurant

- Looking for some authentic Peruvian dishes than this is the place to be.
- From 12:00 PM till 10:30 PM
- J.E. Irausquin Boulevard 64
- Facebook Asi es mi Peru





# SPORTS



New England Patriots' Stephon Gilmore (24) intercepts a pass intended for Los Angeles Rams' Brandin Cooks (12), during the second half of the NFL Super Bowl 53 football game Sunday, Feb. 3, 2019, in Atlanta.

Associated Press

## No love for defense in Super Bowl 53

By ARNIE STAPLETON  
AP Pro Football Writer

In a Super Bowl snoozer featuring a single touchdown by victorious New England and the high-scoring, new-fangled, all-the-rage Los Angeles Rams managing a measly three points, the MVP trophy went to Patriots receiver Julian Edelman. Where's the love for the defense? Sure, Edelman caught 10 passes for 141 yards, including two grabs on the drive that ended with rookie running back Sony Michel plowing into the end zone with the game's lone touchdown. Yet, if there ever was a case for another defensive MVP like Von Miller in Super Bowl 50, this was it. Of 54 MVPs (Cowboys DT Randy White and DE Harvey Martin shared the honors in 1978), 42 have been offensive players, 11 were defenders and one was a special teamer (Desmond Howard in 1997).

Continued on Page 23

# SUPER GREAT



United States' Mikaela Shiffrin checks her time at the end of the women's super G during the alpine ski World Championships, in Are, Sweden, Tuesday, Feb. 5, 2019.

Associated Press  
Page 20



## U.S. Soccer welcomes VAR progress, urges Women's WC approval

By **ROB HARRIS**

**AP Global Soccer Writer**

U.S. Soccer Federation President Carlos Cordeiro is pleased FIFA listened to his requests for video review to be used at the Women's World Cup. Now he's urging the FIFA Council to make it official.

FIFA's delay in deciding whether to deploy VARs raised concerns among coaches and players that the women's showpiece in France wouldn't have the same technology made available to the men's World Cup last year.

But The Associated Press reported Monday that Women's World Cup referees are now in training with video assistant referees in Qatar, allowing FIFA's top decision-making body

to approve them for the June 7-July 7 tournament in France.

"We think it's very important for VAR to be part of the Women's World Cup," Cordeiro told the AP on Tuesday. "U.S. Soccer has been advocating for this at all levels and I know that FIFA has been listening to us, and to others."

"In fact, at a FIFA summit of member association presidents just a few weeks ago (in Morocco), I spoke to this very point. We have seen just how successful it was in Russia and believe that success can be replicated in France."

FIFA has announced a pool of 27 referees and 47 assistant referees for the Women's World Cup and training is taking place in semi-



In this Friday, June 22, 2018 file photo, referee Matt Conger from New Zealand watches the Video Assistant Referee system, known as VAR during the group D match between Nigeria and Iceland at the 2018 soccer World Cup in the Volgograd Arena in Volgograd, Russia.

Associated Press

nars and on the field with VAR to gain the necessary experience.

While the Women's World Cup referees and their assistants are women, most of the VARs are men, with some having gained experienced at the World Cup in Russia. No domestic women's competition currently uses VAR.

"It's important for the game, for fans around the world and, of course, for our players on the field that we do everything possible to include VAR at the Women's World Cup," Cordeiro said.

The FIFA Council will be able to approve VAR for the Women's World Cup at a meeting March 14-15 in Miami. □



In this Feb. 14, 2012 file photo, online brokerage TD Ameritrade founder Joe Ricketts speaks during a ceremonial unveiling of his portrait which will hang in company headquarters in Omaha, Neb.

Associated Press

## Cubs family patriarch apologizes for racist emails

**CHICAGO (AP)** — The patriarch of the family behind the Chicago Cubs has apologized after an online media outlet published emails in which he took part in racist comments and conspiracy theories. Some of the emails Splinter News published Monday featured Joe Ricketts making Islamophobic comments, such as "Islam is a cult and not a religion." Others included conspiracies about former President Barack Obama's birthplace and education. Ricketts, who founded TD

Ameritrade, apologized for the emails. "Sometimes I received emails that I should have condemned. Other times I've said things that don't reflect my value system," the 77-year-old Ricketts said. "I strongly believe that bigoted ideas are wrong." Joe Ricketts and two of his sons, Pete Ricketts and Todd Ricketts, have long been influential figures in conservative politics. Pete Ricketts, who is the Republican governor of Nebraska, can be seen cautioning his father in some of the emails. □

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## Shiffrin wins super-G, Vonn crashes at worlds

By **STEVE DOUGLAS**

**AP Sports Writer**

**ARE, Sweden (AP)** — As Mikaela Shiffrin hopped atop the podium to celebrate another gold medal, Lindsey Vonn was nearby on the sidelines of the finish area, stretching her ailing knees and explaining just how she wound up entangled in a safety net halfway down the course.

Definitive proof, not that it was really needed, of a passing of the baton in American — and world — ski racing.

With a daring and often wild run, Shiffrin won the super-G by 0.02 seconds at the skiing world championships Tuesday for her first medal in a speed event at a major championship.

She has now won a gold medal at four straight worlds. Coming in a season when she has been virtually unbeatable in the World Cup, she is unmistakably the queen of ski racing.

For Vonn, it was an afternoon that made her question her decision to return for one last bid for a title before retirement.

Racing straight after Shiffrin, Vonn was already 0.08 behind her compatriot at the first checkpoint when, off balance after misreading the roll on the crown of a hill, she straddled a gate mid-air, landed heavily on her right side, crashed her head against left arm, and went careening into the safety nets to the left of the course.

There were audible gasps from the grandstand at the bottom of the course as fans watched on the big screen. Shiffrin looked away, seemingly in horror, and later said Vonn had been “on the edge of disaster.” Sofia Goggia, who won silver, clutched her

helmet with both hands. Medical personnel tended to Vonn for a few minutes before the world’s most famous ski racer got to her

career.

“Don’t count me out,” said Vonn, the winner of a women’s record of 82 World Cup races. “I’ve got one more

“She flew far and slightly off to the left and had to make a fairly significant correction,” Kristofic told The Associated Press.

Vonn on the all-time list and 30 behind men’s record holder Ingemar Stenmark. “I think she’s going to break all the records,” Vonn said



**United States' Lindsey Vonn is assisted after crashing during the women's super G at the alpine ski World Championships, in Are, Sweden, Tuesday, Feb. 5, 2019.**

**Associated Press**

feet, put on her skis, and went down the hill unaided. She looked groggy and in pain as she performed a slew of post-race interviews, but seemed better a few hours later.

“I’ve got a bit of a shiner,” Vonn said, showing the right side of her face. “I feel like I’ve been hit by an 18-wheeler.”

“My immediate thought,” she added, “was, ‘What the hell, why am I in the fence again?’ It was like, ‘Why am I here? I’m too old for this.’”

A positive sign was the way she spoke about still being a contender in the downhill on Sunday, in what will be the final race of her storied

chance. Maybe I’ll pull off a miracle, maybe I won’t.” On a course that was shortened because of strong winds, Vonn was typically aggressive from the start despite the persistent pain in both of her knees that is forcing her into retirement. Shiffrin, a more technical racer, also took risks and that meant the victory wasn’t without its complications. She veered off line on the lower section of the course, flailed her arms mid-air to slow down and narrowly cleared the next gate, clipping it with her side.

The mistake occurred right in front of U.S. head coach Paul Kristofic.

“Not many people can do that but she showed the world that she can and not only just to recover from the mistake but to carry as much speed out of it and keep your head in the game.”

Perhaps it explained Shiffrin’s reaction after seeing her time. She crouched over and held her hands to her face in disbelief.

“This is crazy,” Shiffrin said. “I really wasn’t expecting this.”

Shiffrin, a two-time Olympic champion, is now a four-time world champion and a five-time medalist at the worlds, to go with her 56 World Cup victories. That puts her 26 wins behind

of Shiffrin, moments after describing her racing as “methodical and technical, kind of the opposite to me.” “There’s kind of no point me breaking them, because she’s going to break them anyway.”

Goggia, the Olympic downhill champion from Italy, managed a runner-up finish despite only recently beginning her season because of a right ankle injury. Corinne Suter of Switzerland was third, 0.05 behind — a remarkable result for a racer who nearly needed to have her right foot amputated last year after blood poisoning that almost went untreated when training at Stelvio, Italy. □



## Big game for Giannis helps NBA-best Bucks beat Nets 113-94

By The Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Giannis Antetokounmpo had 30 points, 15 rebounds and nine assists, and the Milwaukee Bucks beat the cold-shooting Brooklyn Nets 113-94 on Monday night.

The injury-depleted Nets missed 19 of their first 20 3-point attempts, making it another easy night for the team with the NBA's best record. Brooklyn finished 5 for 42 (11.9 percent) behind the arc.

Malcolm Brogdon added 16 points and Eric Bledsoe had 15 for the Bucks, who won their fourth straight, all by double digits.

D'Angelo Russell scored 18 points for the Nets, who have been forced to go deep down their roster because of injuries and lost their third in a row.

**ROCKETS 118, SUNS 110**

**PHOENIX (AP)** — James Harden scored 44 points, his 20th 40-point game of the season, and Houston handed Phoenix its 11th straight loss.

Harden joined Wilt Chamberlain, Michael Jordan and Rick Barry as the only NBA players with 20 games of at least 40 points in the first 50 of a season.

Harden, who also had eight rebounds and six assists, ex-

tended his streak of games with at least 30 points to 27, third-longest in NBA history. Chris Paul scored 18 and Kenneth Faried had 17 points and 14 rebounds for the Rockets, who were without two starters.

Josh Jackson scored 25 points for the Suns.

**PISTONS 129, NUGGETS 103**

**DETROIT (AP)** — Andre Drummond scored 14 of his season-high 27 points in the third quarter and Detroit snapped Denver's six-game winning streak.

Detroit blew a 25-point lead in a loss to the Los Angeles Clippers on Saturday, but the Pistons poured it on this time. Blake Griffin added 17 points for Detroit, and Reggie Jackson scored 14.

Trey Lyles had 20 points for the Nuggets, who dropped out of a tie with Golden State for the best record in the Western Conference.

Denver was without forward Paul Millsap, sidelined by right ankle soreness, and the Nuggets were also missing Gary Harris (right adductor strain) and Jamal Murray (left ankle sprain).

**KINGS 127, SPURS 112**

**SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP)** — Rookie forward Marvin Bagley III had a career-high 24 points and 12 rebounds for his third straight double-

double, leading Sacramento past San Antonio for its seventh straight home win.

De'Aaron Fox added 20 points and Buddy Hield scored 18 to extend Sacramento's longest home winning streak since a 14-gamer in 2005-06. That was the last time the Kings made the playoffs, but Sacramento (28-25) is positioned to make a run at a postseason spot this season. The Kings trail the Los Angeles Clippers by a half-game for eighth place in the Western Conference.

DeMar DeRozan had 24 points and LaMarcus Aldridge added 22 for the Spurs, who lost the opener of their annual eight-game rodeo road trip.

**HAWKS 137, WIZARDS 129**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Taurean Prince scored 12 of his 21 points in the fourth quarter and hit five of Atlanta's 20 3-pointers against Washington.

Rookie guard Kevin Huerter added 19 points and also hit five 3s in his return to the region where he played college ball at Maryland. Two of those 3s came during an early 16-2 run that put the Hawks up 28-16 late in the first quarter, a lead they did not give back.



Milwaukee Bucks forward Giannis Antetokounmpo (34) shoots as Brooklyn Nets center Jarrett Allen (31) defends him during the second half of an NBA basketball game, Monday, Feb. 4, 2019, in New York.

Associated Press

Vince Carter scored 16 points in 16 minutes after halftime. John Collins had 15 points and 11 rebounds despite exiting at the break with a cut on his face. Trae Young added 10 points and 10 assists as nine Hawks reached double figures. Atlanta finished 20 of

41 from beyond the arc to close a 4-3 road trip. Bradley Beal had 18 of his 27 points in the fourth for the Wizards, who slipped into a 10th-place tie with Orlando in the Eastern Conference playoff race, three games back of eighth-place Miami. □

## Wizards' John Wall needs Achilles surgery; out another year

By HOWARD FENDRICH

AP Sports Writer

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Already done for this season after one operation, Washington Wizards point guard John Wall now will miss most — if not all — of next season, too, because he needs surgery on his left Achilles tendon, which he tore in a fall at home.

Wizards team doctor Wiemi Douguilh said Tuesday in a conference call with reporters that he discovered the partial rupture of the tendon during a procedure done Monday to address an infection from the operation on Wall's left heel on Jan. 8.

The 28-year-old Wall's Achil-



In this Dec. 16, 2018 file photo, Washington Wizards guard John Wall (2) dribbles the ball during the second half of an NBA basketball game, in Washington.

Associated Press

les surgery has not been scheduled yet. Douguilh said it probably will be next week.

Wall, whose game is built

around his speed and ability to drive to the basket, is expected to be able to return to what the team called "full basketball ac-

tivities" about a year after that operation. Douguilh estimated the recovery range for Wall's injury, "at John's age," to be from 11 to 15 months.

There is no way to know what sort of player Wall will be when he returns, Douguilh said.

"Unfortunately," he added, "we don't have a lot of data on elite NBA point guards with tendon ruptures."

Douguilh said Wall was not wearing his walking boot — which is OK while at home — when he slipped and tumbled on Jan. 29.

"He never heard a pop," Douguilh said. "He had a slight increase in discom-

fort." So the Achilles problem wasn't known until Monday.

Wall was the No. 1 overall pick in the 2010 NBA draft out of Kentucky and was an All-Star each of the past five seasons.

But a series of injuries will have robbed him of much of what usually are a player's prime years.

He appeared in only 32 games this season, averaging 20.7 points and 8.7 assists. Last season, when he had an operation on his left knee,

Wall played in 41 of Washington's 82 games. He also had surgery on both knees before the 2016-17 season. □



# Flyers beat Canucks 2-1, notch 8th straight victory

By The Associated Press

**PHILADELPHIA (AP)** — Carter Hart made 41 saves, Sean Couturier and Jakub Voracek scored, and the Philadelphia Flyers beat the Vancouver Canucks 2-1 on Monday night for their eighth straight victory.

The Flyers pulled within five points of a playoff spot after having the NHL's worst record on Jan. 9 — they were 14 points out of a postseason berth during the All-Star break just over a week ago. Philadelphia also became the first NHL expansion club to reach 2,000 victories.

Hart, Philadelphia's 20-year-old rookie, won his seventh straight start with another solid game. His best stop came with 5 ½ minutes left when he dived with his right arm to deny Nikolay Goldobin from a sharp angle on a power play.

Brock Boeser scored for Vancouver, which was playing the first of three games in four nights.



Philadelphia Flyers' Carter Hart (79) blocks a shot by Vancouver Canucks' Nikolay Goldobin (77) during the third period of an NHL hockey game, Monday, Feb. 4, 2019, in Philadelphia. Philadelphia won 2-1.

The game was delayed for several minutes midway through the third period after Vancouver's Alexander Edler went down with a scary-looking injury. Edler's

skate got caught in Voracek's stick, causing Edler to land face-first on the ice. With a bloodied face and dazed look, a conscious Edler was wheeled off on a stretcher while sitting upright.

**KINGS 4, RANGERS 3, OT**  
**NEW YORK (AP)** — Tyler Toffoli scored 25 seconds into overtime and Los Angeles rallied to beat New York. Toffoli's ninth goal of the season came moments after the Rangers' Mika Zibanejad rang the puck off the post behind Kings goaltender Jonathan Quick. Toffoli was mobbed by his teammates as Rangers netminder Henrik Lundqvist skated away in disgust.

Adrian Kempe scored twice and Anze Kopitar added a goal for the Kings, who scored in the last minute of regulation and the first minute of overtime. Quick finished with 24 saves.

Zibanejad, Chris Kreider and Adam McQuaid scored for the Rangers. Lundqvist made 26 saves.

**MAPLE LEAFS 6, DUCKS 1**  
**TORONTO (AP)** — Andreas Johnsson had two goals and two assists, Jake Muzzin added a goal and two

assists and Toronto routed Anaheim.

William Nylander and John Tavares each had a goal and an assist, and Connor Brown also scored for Toronto, which has won three in a row at Scotiabank Arena after dropping six of their previous seven home games.

Frederik Andersen made 24 saves for the Leafs. Zach Hyman added two assists. Rickard Rakell scored for Anaheim. John Gibson made 30 saves before being pulled in favor of Chad Johnson after Toronto scored its fifth goal.

**STARS 5, COYOTES 4**

**DALLAS (AP)** — Tyler Seguin scored a tiebreaking goal with 7:32 to play, and Dallas scored four goals in a wild third period on the way to win over Arizona.

Roope Hintz, John Klingberg, Radek Faksa and Mattias Janmark also scored for the Stars. Ben Bishop made 39 saves as Dallas extended its winning streak to a season-best five games.

Oliver Ekman-Larsson, Kevin Connauton, Vinnie Hinostroza and Alex Galchenyuk scored for Arizona. Darcy Kuemper finished with 24 saves.

## Maple Leafs sign Auston Matthews to 5-year, \$58 million deal

**TORONTO (AP)** — Auston Matthews, one of the NHL's great young talents, signed a five-year contract extension with the Toronto Maple Leafs on Tuesday at an annual average of \$11.6 million. The 21-year-old center was making the maximum \$925,000 a year under his three-year rookie deal. He was eligible to become a restricted free agent July 1. Matthews, a former No. 1 overall draft pick and a rookie of the year, is in his third season with Toronto. He has 97 goals and 81 assists in 182 regular-season games. This season he has 23 goals and 23 assists, but he has played in only 38 of Toronto's 52 games because of injury.

The NHL rookie of the year from Scottsdale, Arizona, has represented Toronto at the NHL All-Star Game in each of his three seasons. The precise average annual payout is \$11.634 mil-



Toronto Maple Leafs center Auston Matthews (34) and Pittsburgh Penguins center Nick Bjugstad (27) battle during the second period of an NHL hockey game in Toronto on Saturday, Feb. 2, 2019.

lion — the 34 at the end appearing to be a nod to his jersey number. The bulk of the money reportedly is in signing bonuses. He will make just \$750,000 in salary each of the five years while getting bonuses of \$15.2 million, \$15.2 million, 9.7 mil-

lion, 7.2 million and \$7.2 million.

His extension comes after 22-year-old Maple Leafs forward William Nylander signed a six-year deal in December worth \$10.2 million this season and \$6.9 million the following seasons.

Associated Press



# What a (familiar) feeling: Boston fetes Super Bowl winners

By PHILIP MARCELO

Associated Press

**BOSTON (AP)** — With cheers of “We want seven!” and “Next year, right here!” hundreds of thousands of jubilant fans jammed downtown Boston on Tuesday for a parade celebrating the New England Patriots’ sixth Super Bowl title.

A party atmosphere enveloped the city on the unseasonably mild day. Red, white and blue confetti rained down and music blared as fans packed along sidewalks hoping to catch a glimpse of quarterback Tom Brady, coach Bill Belichick and the rest of the beloved team.

It’s a familiar feeling in Boston. The city’s teams have now won twelve championships since 2001. Just four months ago, the city feted the Red Sox for their World Series victory over another Los Angeles team, the Dodgers.

Boston resident Tom Collins was beaming as he took in the spectacle across from the city’s historic Common, his ticket from this year’s Super Bowl dangling from a lanyard around his neck.

After celebrating in Atlanta, Collins said he and his

wife drove nearly non-stop to get home for the parade.

“We had to be a part,” he said as he smoked a cigar and held up a homemade Vince Lombardi trophy. “We had to bring the trophy back to Boston.”

Leigh Hickman, of Swansey, New Hampshire, drew cheers as he stalked the crowd wearing a rubber goat mask, a Tom Brady shirt and a sign that read: “We’re Still Here.”

“I wanted to represent the G.O.A.T., the greatest player of all time,” he said. “I’m the same age as him and I can’t imagine doing any of the things he does. It’s unbelievable.”

Fresh from Sunday’s 13-3 victory over the Los Angeles Rams in the Super Bowl title match held in Atlanta, team members and their families took a 2-mile (3-kilometer) swing through the city aboard Boston’s iconic World War II-era amphibious “duck boats.”

Brady held his pigtailed daughter, Vivian, as they waved and grinned at the crowd. Other players, Belichick and team owner Robert Kraft took turns holding aloft the Lombardi Tro-



**Workers secure a New England Patriots banner on a pole before the team parades through downtown Boston, Tuesday, Feb. 5, 2019, to celebrate their win over the Los Angeles Rams in Sunday’s NFL Super Bowl 53 football game in Atlanta.**

phy.

Star tight end Rob Gronkowski, who has talked about retiring after this latest NFL title, whooped it up with his brothers and father. He and several other players removed their shirts and spent much of the parade bare-chested.

Players also waved large signs that read, “We Got Everything” — a twist on

the team’s motivational hashtag, “Everything We Got,” that had become a theme this season.

Boston Police Sgt. John Boyle said the crowd of roughly 1.5 million was one of the largest the city has seen for a championship parade.

The regional transit system reported record ridership as revelers basked in dazzling

Associated Press

sunshine and temperatures that peaked above 60 degrees (15 degrees Celsius). Police made at least a dozen arrests and emergency medical officials transported 34 revelers to area hospitals. Five of those arrested were involved in a brawl that happened near the parade’s end and at least seven of the arrests were juveniles, Boyle said. □

## Super Bowl 53

Continued from Page 18

There were plenty of worthy candidates from the Patriots defense that hit Goff 16 times, collected four sacks, broke up eight passes and picked off another.

Two defenders really stood out:

—Jason McCourty raced across the field to break up a would-be touchdown toss to Brandin Cooks, who was wide open — but ... had ... to ... wait ... forever ... for Jared Goff’s rainbow pass that was knocked away just as it arrived.

—Stephon Gilmore intercepted Goff’s pass in front of his end zone with 4:17 remaining on a pass intended for Cooks to seal the sixth title for Tom Brady, who outplayed Goff, and Bill Belichick, who outsmarted Sean McVay.

Calais Campbell, for one, insists Gilmore was the real MVP of SB53 after forcing a fumble, intercepting a pass, breaking up three other throws and collecting five tackles.

“The offense only scores 13 points and they give MVP to Edelman but the D only gives up 3 points and Gilmore” does all of that, Campbell complained on social media. “Smh no respect for the masterpiece on defense.”

The Rams may very well represent the future with their 33-year-old coach and 24-year-old quarterback, but the 66-year-old coach and his 41-year-old QB still reign supreme in 2019 — thanks again to a defense that allowed the duo to survive another masterful game plan by Rams defensive coordina-



**New England Patriots’ Jason McCourty (30) breaks up a pass intended for Los Angeles Rams’ Brandin Cooks (12) during the second half of the NFL Super Bowl 53 football game Sunday, Feb. 3, 2019, in Atlanta.**

Associated Press

tor Wade Phillips.

Brady’s worst Super Bowl — three scores in 11 drives that didn’t end in kneel-downs — also was his easiest — a 10-point margin of victory was his highest ever. McVay and Goff both accepted the blame for a miserable showing in which

Rams never adjusted to New England’s zone defense and aggressive D-line and managed to score just once in a dozen drives, the first eight of which ended in punts.

When it was over, the high-flying Rams, who led the NFC in scoring with a

33-point average, had nine punts, an interception, a field goal and a missed field goal to show for all that firepower that had so many NFL teams trying to find the next Sean McVay. After the red-white-and-blue confetti was cleaned up with leaf blowers at Mercedes-Benz Stadium in Atlanta, Rams quarterbacks coach Zac Taylor became the third assistant hired off McVay’s staff. He was hired as head coach the Cincinnati Bengals. At 35, Taylor becomes the second-youngest head coach in the NFL behind his former boss.

With those two hires, the coaching carousel has eight new head coaches, six of them with offensive roots, as owners seek the next McVay or Kyle Shanahan to keep up with all this innovative run-pass optioning, jet-sweeping, scoreboard-busting offenses. □





## By: Dr. Carlos Viana

**The word thyroid comes from the Greek "thura" which means "door," which is what the thyroid looks like. Your thyroid gland is the largest endocrine gland and is situated in the front of the neck. Your thyroid gland secretes iodine-rich hormones thyroxin and triiodothyronine which regulate your metabolism rate; but its effects are felt all over the body.**

Thyroid glands that are not functioning optimally produce a myriad of symptoms. Many people experience unexplained cold hands and feet, low body temperature, sensitivity to cold, a feeling of always being chilled, headaches, insomnia, dry skin and hair, puffy eyes, hair loss, brittle nails, joint aches, constipation, mental dullness, fatigue, frequent infections, PMS symptoms, hoarse voice, ringing in the ears, dizziness, depression, fluid retention, anxiety and panic attacks, allergies, asthma, acne, skin hives, loss

of libido, and weight gain, which is sometimes uncontrollable. In fact, an insufficiently nourished thyroid might be a major cause of weight problems, especially among women, in the West today.

Research indicates that up to 10 percent of Westerners have a thyroid problem that has most likely gone unrecognized. If you are experiencing any of the symptoms above your doctor could send you to check your thyroid function through a blood test. Unfortunately, the test results may not be accurate. This is because test "averages" do not show how all of us are unique. Your individual thyroid hormone levels are not like anyone else's.

Thyroid tests will not give you an accurate indication of your ideal thyroid hormone level, because they are missing a critical piece of information which is your peak thyroid level when you were young and healthy. Should your thyroid test results indicate that you are in the "normal" range...say 5.5...but when you were younger you would have tested at a 9, then indeed, your thyroid is quite under active for you. At 5.5 you may feel very tired yet your doctor will tell you that your test results are "normal."

You can only truly compare you with you, and not a range of others. It would be ideal if we were tested when we were in our late teens and twenties and our peak levels were recorded at the topmost physical time in our life. Then, as we age, we could test ourselves again to ensure that our hormone levels remain at this peak level.

The second reason that the tests are often inaccurate is because they only show what your thyroid hormone levels are on the day of testing. Your thyroid is a "tricky" organ to both diagnose and treat since its hormone levels fluctuate all the time. What you eat each day has a tremendous and immediate impact on it, and how much hormone it secretes.

A third reason for their inaccuracy is that the tests do not indicate if your thyroid hormone is actually entering your cells. Your thyroid may be manufacturing plenty of hormone but your cells can become resistant to the hormone and not able to utilize it. This condition is called Wil-

son's Syndrome. If you have low body temperature and some of the symptoms listed above you could have this condition.

In our clinic we see a lot of hypo or low functioning thyroids. The first solution is to put our patients on their metabolic or blood type food list. Because of today's diet, people will likely never experience outstanding thyroid health, unless they are encouraged to change their eating habits.

Your thyroid can be nourished better with a diet that includes the good fats (olive oil, pumpkin-seed oil, real, unsalted butter, cod liver oil, and egg yolks) and mineral-rich foods (dark green leafy vegetables, sea salt and ocean veggies). Supplements that help in building a strong thyroid are kelp and selenium.

Most thyroid patients are women and many with low progesterone are often misdiagnosed as thyroid deficiency. Thyroid and sex hormones each affect the other. We often attend women with bulging eyes, racing heartbeat, and a swollen neck by naturally stimulating their progesterone production. Adding zinc to your daily supplement routine is important for sexual health.

Irregular periods, often leading to needless hysterectomies, are unfortunate common aspects of hypothyroidism; and breast disease. Too little thyroid production may cause increased prolactin levels and persistent estrogen stimulation. Prolactin is the hormone that stimulates the production of breast milk. Levels rise normally during pregnancy and breastfeeding. Abnormal changes in prolactin production can slow or stop your menstruation and you may find that you are producing milk from your breasts when you are not pregnant.

Get The Point! Your thyroid may not be working at its optimum if you are experiencing some of the symptoms mentioned above. If the guardian in your throat isn't handling the job anymore, maybe it's time for a change of guard. Take control of your health by opening the door to diet and lifestyle changes. Don't settle for "averages." We are all different; we offer specialized hormone and other testing. Let us prepare a personal plan to fortify your health. □

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# Millennial Money: Student loan default can gut your paycheck

By **KELSEY SHEEHY**  
**Associated Press**

There's a dirty little secret of the student debt crisis. One that affects millions of borrowers, but isn't talked about at dinner tables, on social media or in think pieces about student loans. The taboo topic is wage garnishment and it works like this: Default on your federal student loans and the government can take up to 15 percent of each paycheck to satisfy your debt. That amounts to \$300 per month for someone who normally takes home \$2,000 per month. The Education Department can also withhold federal benefits like tax returns and Social Security payments. Garnishment is an effective tool to recoup unpaid loans — private collection agencies enlisted by the Education Department took in over \$841.6 million via wage garnishment in the 2018 fiscal year — but it inflicts serious financial strain on borrowers who are already struggling.

"It's a very powerful collection tactic that can really devastate the financial lives of the people subjected to it," says Joanna Darcus, a staff attorney at the National Consumer Law Center who works with low-income student loan borrowers. "They can't afford to pay their rent, buy their medicine, buy clothes for their kids and also pay a



In this June 15, 2018, file photo, twenty dollar bills are counted in North Andover, Mass. Default on your federal student loans and the government can take up to 15 percent of each paycheck to satisfy your debt.

large percentage of their wages toward their student loan."

If you received notice of garnishment or are already in the thick of it, don't panic; you have options that are far less painful than a 15 percent hit to your paycheck.

## STOP GARNISHMENT BEFORE IT STARTS

The ideal time to take action is when you begin struggling to make payments. At that point, your loan servicer can help you explore other repayment options, including income-based plans that cap your monthly payment.

Once your loans are in default — nearly nine months past due for most federal loans — those options are off the table until your loan is in good standing. You can rehabilitate your loans to move out of default

(more on that below). You also have a brief window to consolidate your federal loans (combining them into a single loan with its own interest rate) before the Education Department, via a private collection agency, moves to garnish your wages.

The collection agency handling your federal loans will notify you by mail before it starts garnishing your wages. The notice serves as your 30-day warning. During this time, you can stop the process by negotiating payment arrangements with the agency. The key: It must receive your first payment in that 30-day window.

If you can't make a payment within that window, request a hearing to appeal the garnishment. To prevent garnishment from starting, you must request

the hearing in writing within 30 days of the date on your collection notice. You can still file an appeal after garnishment starts, but the collection agency will continue to take up to 15 percent of your take-home pay while the case is reviewed, which can take two to three months. A hearing sounds intimidating but it's no more than a long form detailing your income, debt and expenses. The goal is to stop or reduce garnishment.

"You hear the word 'hearing' and think, 'Oh my god, I need an attorney!' But it's just a basic exchange of information," says Betsy Mayotte, founder of The Institute of Student Loan Advisors. Contact the collection agency handling your loan to talk about payment arrangements or get details on a hearing request. Not sure whom to call? Check the National Student Loan Data System to find out who is managing your loan and how to reach them.

## REHABILITATE YOUR LOAN

Loan rehabilitation is a one-time "Get out of default" card. Here's how it works: The collection agency sets a monthly payment based on your income, minus any reasonable monthly expenses. The amount could be as low as \$5 a month. You'll need to provide documentation, like copies of pay stubs and bills, and complete a detailed

form to help determine the amount. Any wages garnished due to defaulted student loans will be considered among your expenses.

Make nine payments of the agreed-upon amount within 10 months and your loans move out of default. Any wage garnishment will stop. And you're once again able to choose a repayment plan that works for you, including several income-based options that could drop your monthly payment to \$0. □

## Eurozone growth falters further at the start of 2019

**Associated Press**

**LONDON (AP)** — A closely watched survey shows that economic growth across the 19-country eurozone dipped further at the start of 2019 to its lowest level in five-and-a-half years.

Financial information company IHS Markit said Tuesday that its composite purchasing managers index — a gauge of business activity across the manufacturing and services sector — fell to 51.0 points in January from 51.1 the previous month. Anything below 50 indicates a contraction in activity.


As a result, the firm said its survey suggests that the eurozone is growing at a tepid 0.1 percent quarterly tick at the start of the year. Chris Williamson, chief busi-

ness economist at the firm, said a manufacturing and export-led slowdown has "shown increasing signs of infecting the service sector." □




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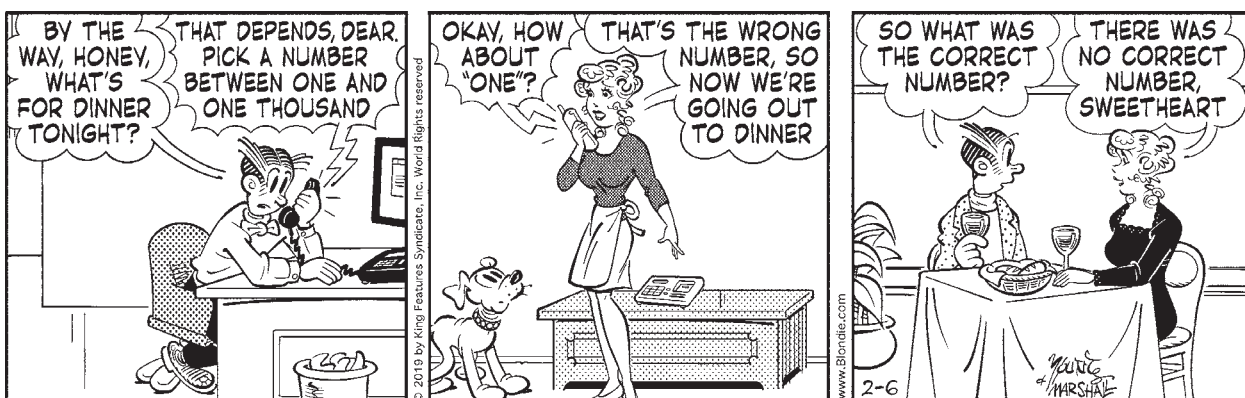
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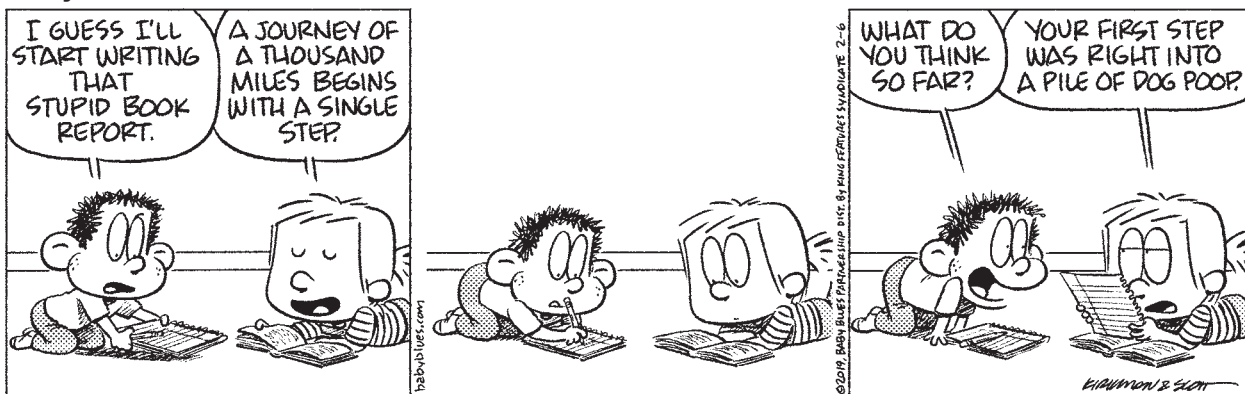
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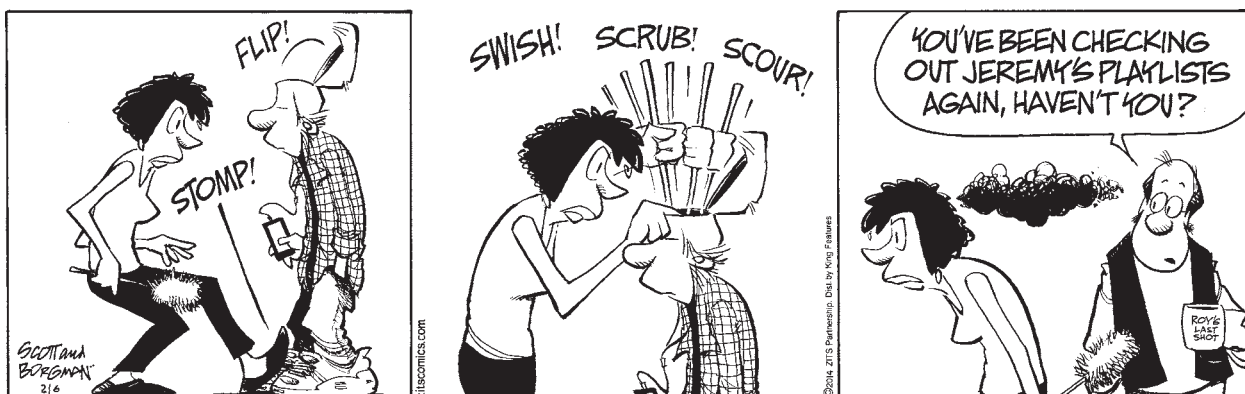
## Mother Goose & Grimm



## Baby Blues



## Zits



## Conceptis Sudoku

	6	7	1	9	2			
		2			6	1	8	
		3			4			7
	1					3		8
7							4	6
4							2	
	8					5		
		6			9			
			2	1				

Difficulty Level ★★★

2/06

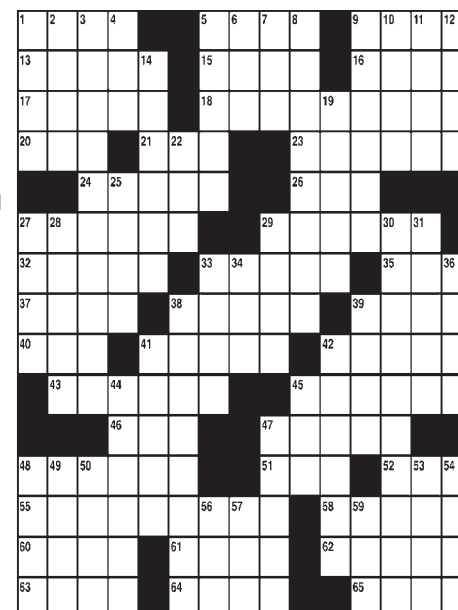
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

7	9	5	1	3	6	8	2	4
2	6	3	8	4	7	9	1	5
1	8	4	9	2	5	3	6	7
4	5	9	6	8	3	1	7	2
8	7	6	4	1	2	5	9	3
3	1	2	5	7	9	4	8	6
5	3	8	7	6	1	2	4	9
9	4	7	2	5	8	6	3	1
6	2	1	3	9	4	7	5	8

## ACROSS

- Applaud
- American ... ND's state trees
- Lunch spot
- Skin-numbing injection
- Hose problem
- Call it ...; quit and go home
- Family tree member
- Belittle; defame
- Spelling contest
- Female animal
- Showy bird feathers
- Underneath bunk
- Daddies
- Sports buildings
- Madrid madame
- Like permed hair
- Pumpkin or cucumber
- Deer's cousin
- Waiter's item
- Piles
- Place to buy salami & rye
- College football day: abbr.
- Chairs & benches
- Amarillo's state
- More slender
- Puts off
- Ruby or scarlet
- Kingdom
- Inn
- Ship letters
- "Don't Think Twice, ... Alright"; Bob Dylan hit
- Hobbies
- Bert's buddy
- Bambi, for one
- Flue residue
- Item in a bedding package
- Catch sight of
- Convince
- Probability



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

2/6/19

## Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

HOPE	SCREW	SKIM
EARL	ALIVE	LACE
WHIM	LOSANGELES	
SUN	TACK	LEEDS
	CLARK	PEP
SHEEDY	FIASCO	
OASIS	ELLEN	OWL
FUSS	FLIER	TRIO
ATE	POKED	URNS
ESSAYS	RENEGE	
	HIT	HIDES
DOZEN	SONS	PAD
VERTHROWS	TOGO	
DEAR	EERIE	KNEE
ONLY	SPEED	ODDS

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2/6/19

## DOWN

- Black card
- "The ... Ranger"
- Speed up

- of; disregarding
- "The Farmer in the ..."
- Ease, as another's fears
- Equipment
- Cereal grain
- Bit of Hershey's chocolate
- Keep out of sight
- Billfold items
- Two- ...; ballroom dance
- up; bound
- Collections
- Piglet's mom
- T; exactly
- Greek letter



# Classifieds

## Halley Time Travel

### Divi Village

1 BR WK # 8 & 9  
21 & 25 weeks remain  
\$9000 each  
Divi links Golf  
1 BR WK# 8 & 9  
27 weeks remain  
\$9000 each

### Aruba Divi Phoenix

1 BR WK # 6  
2 sd Floor Front Villas  
28 weeks remain \$12,500  
Studio WK # 7 \$7500  
11 th Floor 17 week remain  
1 BR WK # 8 \$16,000  
building 6 4th floor  
29 weeks remain

### Renaissance Suites

1 BR WK # 9 \$9000  
4th Floor Harbor view  
1 BR WK # 11 \$8000  
3rd Floor Garden view  
1 BR WK # 12 \$9000  
3rd floor pool/ocean view  
1 BR DLX Wk 13&14 \$9000  
each  
5th floor ocean front

### Tropicana Resort

1 BR WK # 5,6,7,8  
Ground floor \$7000 each  
1 BR WK 7 & 8 \$7000 each  
Dutch Village  
1 BR WK 8 \$8500  
24 weeks remain

### For Rent

#### Aruba Divi Phoenix

1 BR WK # 8 \$2000  
23 February 2 March 2019  
Divi Links Golf  
Studio WK #8 \$1500  
23 February 2 March 2019

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Swimming pool \$350K

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2 BR Ocean Front \$24,000

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1 BR WK # 3  
24 weeks remain \$ 8500  
2 BR WK # 3  
28 weeks remain \$ 25,000

### Divi Links Golf

1 BR WK # 4 and 5  
25 and 30 weeks remain \$ 9000  
each  
1 BR WK # 4  
20 weeks remain \$9000

### Divi Village

Studio WK # 6  
22 weeks remain \$ 8000  
The Mill Resorts and Suites  
1 br wk # 4 \$7000

### Marriott Surf Club

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2 BR Ocean View \$ 15,000  
2 BR Ocean Side \$16,000  
2 BR Ocean Front \$ 27,000  
3 BR Ocean View \$26,000

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Fri/Fri \$3,900  
Week 13 Two Bed Unit #4552H  
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or cell 592 0500  
In US sales.cpv@hotmail.com  
or cell 978 530 6077

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Wk 7/1308 (\$18,000)  
Wks 7 & 8/1408 (\$18,000)  
Wk 8/1113 (\$17,000)  
Wk 8/1409 (\$17,000)  
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U.S. (860) 649-9639

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### Tropicana Eagle Beach Resort

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and wk 29 7/20 1495 also  
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US 508 651 0016

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#### San Nicolas

IMSAN 24 Hours

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Trupial Tel. 583 8560

#### San Nicolas:

Centro Medico Tel. 584 5794

### OTHER

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Blood Bank Aruba 587 0002

Urgent Care 586 0448

### EMERGENCY

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Noord	527 3200
Sta. Cruz	527 2900
San Nicolas	584 5000
Police Tipline	11141
Ambulancia	911
Fire Dept.	115
Red Cross	582 2219

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Jet Blue	588 2244
Surinam	582 7896

### CRUISES



#### February 6

Caribbean Princess  
Freedom of the Seas  
Monarch  
Freewinds

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Narcotics Anonymous  
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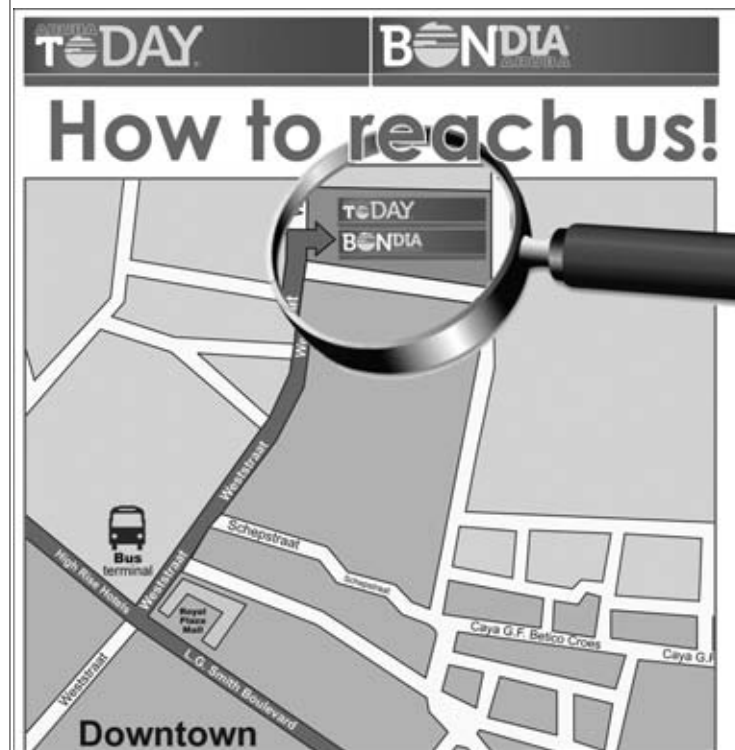
Centre for Diabetes  
Tel. 524 8888

Child Abuse Prevention  
Tel. 582 4433

Quota Club Tel. 525 2672

### General Info

Phone Directory Tel. 118





# Check your compass: The magnetic north pole is on the move

By **SETH BORENSTEIN**

**AP Science Writer**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — North isn't quite where it used to be.

Earth's north magnetic pole has been drifting so fast in the last few decades that scientists say that past estimates are no longer accurate enough for precise navigation. On Monday, they released an update of where magnetic north really was, nearly a year ahead of schedule.

The magnetic north pole is wandering about 34 miles (55 kilometers) a year. It crossed the international date line in 2017, and is leaving the Canadian Arctic on its way to Siberia.

The constant shift is a problem for compasses in smartphones and some consumer electronics. Airplanes and boats also rely on magnetic north, usually as backup navigation, said University of Colorado geophysicist Arnaud Chulliat, lead author of the newly issued World Magnetic Model. GPS isn't affected because it's satellite-based.

The military depends on where magnetic north is for navigation and parachute drops, while NASA, the Federal Aviation Administration and U.S. Forest Service also use it. Airport runway names are based on their direction toward magnetic north and their names change when the poles moved. For example, the airport in Fairbanks, Alaska, renamed a runway 1L-19R to 2L-20R in 2009.

The U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and United Kingdom tend to update the location of the magnetic north pole every five years in December, but this update came early because



In this July 16, 2017, file photo a radar shows sea ice ahead of the Finnish icebreaker MSV Nordica as chief officer Harri Venalainen navigates the ship through the Beaufort Sea while traversing the Arctic's Northwest Passage.

of the pole's faster movement.

The movement of the magnetic north pole "is pretty fast," Chulliat said.

Since 1831 when it was first measured in the Canadian Arctic it has moved about 1,400 miles (2300 kilometers) toward Siberia. Its speed jumped from about 9 miles per year (15 kilometers per year) to 34 miles per year (55 kilometers per year) since 2000.

The reason is turbulence in Earth's liquid outer core. There is a hot liquid ocean of iron and nickel in the planet's core where the motion generates an electric field, said University of Maryland geophysicist Daniel Lathrop, who wasn't part of the team monitoring the magnetic north pole.

"It has changes akin to weather," Lathrop said. "We might just call it magnetic weather."

The magnetic south pole is moving far slower than the

north.

In general Earth's magnetic field is getting weaker,

leading scientists to say that it will eventually flip, where north and south pole

**Associated Press**



This undated image provided by Chinese Academy of Sciences shows the Artist's impression of the Milky Way.

**Associated Press**

## Our Milky Way galaxy is truly warped, at least around edge

**MARCIA DUNN**

**AP Aerospace Writer**

**CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP)**

— It turns out our Milky Way galaxy is truly warped, at least around the far edges. Scientists in China and Australia released an updated 3D map of the Milky Way on Tuesday. They used 1,339 pulsating stars — young, newly catalogued stars bigger and brighter than our sun — to map the galaxy's shape.

The farther from the center, the more warping, or twisting, there is in the Milky

Way's outer hydrogen gas disc. Researchers say the warped, spiral pattern is likely caused by the spinning force of the massive inner disc of stars.

"We usually think of spiral galaxies as being quite flat, like Andromeda, which you can easily see through a telescope," Macquarie University's Richard de Grijs, who took part in the study, said in a statement from Sydney. Lead researcher Xiaodian Chen of the Chinese Academy of Sciences in Beijing said it's difficult to

determine distances from the sun to the Milky Way's fringes, "without having a clear idea of what that disc actually looks like." The stars on which his team's map is based — known as classical Cepheids — provided substantial measuring accuracy.

At least a dozen other galaxies appear to have warped edges in a similar spiral pattern, so in that respect, we're hardly unique. The study appears in the journal *Nature Astronomy*. □



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## 21 Savage's English origins stun fans of the Atlanta rapper

By ANDREW DALTON  
Associated Press

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — It was a shock for fans when 21 Savage was taken into custody by U.S. immigration agents in Georgia. It was an even bigger shock to learn he had been an immigrant in the first place. The Grammy-nominated rapper and his music are so deeply associated with Atlanta that the notion he was actually born in England and brought to the U.S. at age 12 felt downright bizarre.

Scores of surprised tweets came after his Sunday arrest. Memes bloomed that some called cruel under the circumstances, including one of him dressed as a Buckingham Palace guard, along with an old video of him talking in a mock English accent about tea and crumpets. While the United Kingdom is responsible for rap icon Slick Rick, he also grew up in America, and its rappers traditionally have not had much success in America.

"It seems so outlandish that the prototypical Atlanta rapper is not from Atlanta," said Samuel Hine, a writer and editor at GQ who researched 21 Savage and spent a day with him for a profile in the magazine last year. "I think that's why so many people were sort of making fun of him, and making memes."

By all accounts, few knew



In this Sunday, May 20, 2018, file photo, 21 Savage arrives at the Billboard Music Awards at the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas.

his real birthplace, and it certainly wasn't publicly known. His accent gave no indication, and his birth name, Sha Yaa Bin Abraham-Joseph, could come from any number of birthplaces.

"I certainly heard no whispers challenging his accepted backstory," Hine said.

Abraham-Joseph was detained in a targeted operation in the Atlanta area and put in deportation proceedings, U.S. Customs and Immigration Enforcement spokesman Bryan Cox said.

Abraham-Joseph's attorneys said U.S. immigration

officials have known his status at least since 2017, when he applied for a new visa. That application is pending, and his attorneys say he should not be detained.

"He, like almost two million other children, was left without legal status through no fault of his own," Kuck Baxter Immigration, the law firm representing Abraham-Joseph, said in a statement Monday, adding that he now has U.S. Citizen children of his own.

Abraham-Joseph then spent his teenage years in Atlanta — the city that birthed rap gods OutKast — and his image and later

his music became defined by the city's distinctive and rich hip-hop culture. Even the "21" in his name is a reference to the block where he lived there.

"Him growing up in Atlanta is a pretty fundamental part of his story," Hine said. "His identity is so rooted in his Atlanta sound, his Atlanta crew."

Abraham-Joseph was truthful when he rapped about his youthful exploits in Atlanta, including run-ins with the law over guns and drugs, Hine said. He just left out the stuff that came before that.

A pair of mixtapes in 2015 made his star rise quickly in

the Atlanta underground. Collaborations with Atlanta artists including Metro Boomin and Offset of rap group Migos raised his profile.

He signed with Epic Records and made a pair of successful albums. His latest, "I Am I Was," debuted at the top of the Billboard top 200 album charts this past December.

He collaborated with Drake, Cardi B, and Post Malone, whose song with 21 Savage, "Rockstar," is nominated for two Grammys at Sunday's awards ceremony in Los Angeles. For many who love 21 Savage, surprise about his arrest quickly gave way to outrage.

Offset tweeted that he was "PRAYING FOR MY DAWG. ALL THE MEMES ... AINT FUNNY HIS FAMILY DEPENDING ON HIM."

Rapper Vince Staples joined many others in tweeting, "Free 21!"

Black Lives Matter co-founder Patrisse Cullors established an online petition to stop his deportation that was fast gaining signatories.

Singer Demi Lovato felt some of the anger when she tweeted Sunday that "21 savage memes have been my favorite part of the Super Bowl." She later clarified that she wasn't laughing "at anyone getting deported," but subsequently deleted her Twitter account. □



In this May 14, 2008 file photo, actress Dayanara Torres arrives at the People en Espanol party, celebrating its 12th annual "50 Most Beautiful" issue in New York.

Associated Press

## Model-actress Dayanara Torres says she has skin cancer

Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Actress Dayanara Torres says she has skin cancer and is awaiting news on the treatment to follow after having undergone two surgeries. The former Miss Universe said in an Instagram post Monday that doctors have "already removed a big area from the back of my knee & also they have removed 2 lymph nodes at the top of my leg where it had already spread."

Torres, who has two children with ex-husband Marc Anthony, opened the clip by saying that mothers have a tendency to care for everyone around them and forget about themselves.

She said she was diagnosed with melanoma for "a big spot/mole I never paid attention to" and that her fiancé, Marvel Studios' co-president Louis D'Esposito, was the one who made her the doctor's appointment

after "begging" her to go have it checked.

Torres, who is from Puerto Rico and in 2017 won Univision's dancing competition "¡Mira Quién Baila!," said that she's feeling strong. She said her sons Cristian, 18, and Ryan, 15, are "a bit scared" but know about her faith in God and that "they have a warrior of a mommy!" She ended with a plea to her 900,000 followers: "PLEASE, never forget to take care of yourself." □



# Farhadi channels Agatha Christie in Spanish thriller

By JOCELYN NOVECK  
Associated Press

There are few more seductive things to watch onscreen than a big, wine-soaked, multi-generational family wedding like the one that happens early in "Everybody Knows," Asghar Farhadi's new thriller set in a picturesque Spanish village.

But as good as Farhadi is at portraying the infectious revelry binding a family together, he's even better at exploring what happens when those binds start to fray. And they do, pretty fast. The wedding cake is barely cut before anguished cries ring out and smiles morph into concern and fear.

"Everybody Knows" is not Farhadi's first movie set outside his native Iran, but it's in Spanish, a language he doesn't speak. His chief interpreters here are Spanish cinema royalty: Penélope Cruz and Javier Bardem. The combination of this high-wattage real-life couple, the sun-dappled scenery and the page-



This image released by Focus Features shows Penélope Cruz, left, and Javier Bardem in a scene from "Everybody Knows."

turning plot have led some to worry that Farhadi's latest effort might be a bit less incisive or penetrating than his usual fare, which includes the Oscar-winning "The Salesman" and "A Separation."

But Farhadi is as adept as ever here in painting complex relationships tested by the most trying of circumstances. And while he may leave a few dimensions less than fully mined — the vil-

lage's class and economic tensions, for example — he's created a hugely engrossing study of a family undergoing a terrifying crisis.

We begin with the arrival of Laura (Cruz) in her home village for her sister's wedding, her teenage daughter and young son in tow. Laura's been living for years in Argentina with her architect husband Alejandro (Ricardo Darin), who has stayed home from the wedding for murky profes-

sional reasons, Laura arrives to a family bustling with preparations for the big day. It doesn't take long for her to run into the jovial Paco (Bardem), a local vineyard owner who seems a de facto leader of the town. It also doesn't take long for us to learn that long ago, Laura and Paco were lovers.

Their names are even etched in the wall of the church bell tower. A local boy shows this to Irene (Carla Campra), Laura's

daughter: "Everybody knows," he says.

That tantalizing title will come to mind again and again, changing meaning as we go along. Sure, maybe everybody knows of Paco and Laura's romance, but what else do they know? Are there deeper, darker secrets to emerge?

In any case, the joyful wedding — sumptuously depicted with both intoxicating close-ups and overheard shots that render just a touch of menace — soon morphs into a rainy, endless night. Laura goes to check on her sleeping daughter and finds she's vanished. On a bed, someone has left newspaper clippings about the kidnapping of an 8-year-old girl years ago. Whodunit? Suspicion falls on local youths, or vineyard workers. Inevitably, someone suggests: "Maybe it wasn't a stranger." Alejandro flies in from Argentina. Paco spearheads a desperate search. Laura sinks deeper into a tailspin; Cruz's expressive face seems to become permanently tear-streaked. □

Associated Press

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GINA RODRIGUEZ | ANTHONY MACKIE  
CXC  
MON-THU 4:40 | 7:00 | 9:30  
FRI 4:40 | 7:00 | 9:30 | 11:40  
SAT 2:20 | 4:40 | 7:00 | 9:30 | 11:40  
SUN 2:20 | 4:40 | 7:00 | 9:30  
MON-FRI 3:50 | 6:10  
SAT-SUN 1:30 | 3:50 | 6:10

**THE KID KING**  
LOUIS ASHBORNE SERKIS | PATRICK STEWART  
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES  
MON-FRI 4:00 | 6:35 | 9:10  
SAT-SUN 1:25 | 4:00 | 6:35 | 9:10  
SPANISH  
MON-FRI 4:30  
SAT-SUN 1:55 | 4:30

**BON BINI HOLLAND 2**  
JANDINO ASPORAAT | JULIANA DE VRIES  
DUTCH  
MON-THU 5:20 | 7:25 | 9:30  
FRI 5:20 | 7:25 | 9:30 | 11:35  
SAT 1:10 | 3:15 | 5:20 | 7:25 | 9:30 | 11:35  
SUN 1:10 | 3:15 | 5:20 | 7:25 | 9:30

**the upside**  
BRYAN CRANSTON | KEVIN HART  
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES  
MON-FRI 3:50 | 6:30 | 9:10  
SAT-SUN 1:10 | 3:50 | 6:30 | 9:10

**A DOG'S WAY HOME**  
BRYCE DALLAS HOWARD | ASHLEY JUDD  
MON-THU 4:30 | 6:45  
FRI & SUN 2:15 | 4:30 | 6:45

**GLASS**  
BRUCE WILLIS | SAMUEL L. JACKSON  
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES  
MON-FRI 3:45 | 6:25 | 9:05  
SAT-SUN 1:05 | 3:45 | 6:25 | 9:05

**AQUAMAN**  
JASON MOMOA | AMBER HEARD  
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES  
MON-FRI & SUN 9:00

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## New novel by Claire Adam tells haunting family tale

By RASHA MADKOUR  
Associated Press

"Golden Child" (SJP for Hogarth), by Claire Adam. A new novel set in Trinidad spins the tale of an absorbing family drama that ultimately explores the tension between individualism and utilitarianism.

Claire Adam's debut novel, "Golden Child," is a page-turner not by dint of cliffhangers but because a reader becomes invested in the well-developed story and richly drawn characters, heightened by a baseline tension established in the first pages. Adam creates a strong sense of place to fully transport a reader to the sights, smells and sounds of rural Trinidad.

The story begins with the

unknown whereabouts of Paul, the younger twin son of the Deyalsingh family and the one historically to cause much of the parental heartache. The older twin, Peter, is the titular golden child — pegged at an early age as a genius. Shifting back and forth in time, the story pieces come together like a puzzle. When the narrative shifts to Paul's perspective, a third of the way in, this character who is much discussed and dissected suddenly has a chance to show readers how he really is and the effect is jarring and tragic.

By the end, it becomes hard not to question well-meaning characters and their resolute adherence to their guiding principles —



This book cover image released by SJP for Hogarth shows "Golden Child," a novel by Claire Adam.

Associated Press

prioritizing family, emphasizing education — which are seemingly uncontroversial but ultimately contribute to the central crisis the family faces.

"Golden Child" is a beautiful and haunting tale, one that leaves readers thinking long after the last page has been turned. □



## Swedish band Ghost finds itself in new Grammy category

By MARK KENNEDY

Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — The first time Tobias Forge walked up to collect a Grammy, few people knew his name — and that was purposeful. The leader of the Swedish metal group Ghost fiercely protected his anonymity and hid behind thick ghoulish makeup. Things will be different if he wins this year. If Forge's band's name is called, he will go up as himself, leaving aside his costume and alter ego. He has two chances: Ghost is up for best rock album and best rock song. It's a category switch from 2016, when it won for best metal performance.

Forge, who creates demonic characters for every album, has slipped into his latest, the creepy Cardinal Copia, to tour with the new CD, "Prequelle," which continues the band's ability to mix the metal of Scorpions or Ratt with a surprisingly tight sax solo. Forge was unmasked in 2017 when former band members sued him, forcing him to reveal his identity. "Prequelle" hit No. 3 on the Billboard 200 albums chart and No. 1 on the top rock album list, spawning the Top 20 rock hits "Rats" and "Dance Macabre."

Forge took time out from Ghost's European tour to chat with The Associated



In this Feb. 15, 2016 file photo, Ghost poses in the press room with the award for best metal performance for "Cirice" at the 58th annual Grammy Awards in Los Angeles.

Press by phone about his sound, switching categories and losing his anonymity.

AP: In 2016, you seemed kind of restrained for a guy who just won a Grammy. Were you playing it cool?

Forge: I guess I am a somewhat composed guy. But, obviously, the last time you saw me there, also, we were in character. And it doesn't really translate very well. Any sentiments you may have — unless it's wrath — it won't show very well. But I was ecstatic, absolutely.

AP: Will you attend the awards in character this time?

Forge: From a comfort level and just to make it doable, we're just leaving the Cardinal in Germany to wait for us to come back. He has to stay there. But, you know, we'll get him a room and a harem. He'll be fine.

AP: At the '16 Grammys, you competed in the metal category. This year, you're in two rock categories. Have they changed the way they look at you or have you changed your approach to music?

Forge: Each record is its own being but you will recognize the style — there are certain fingerprints in there, there are certain traces of DNA — that will be unmistakably mine. But I personally don't believe that our step is so far out of the zone that we should naturally change categories.

AP: Is being in the rock category more intimidating?

Forge: All of a sudden, you're playing with the big boys and girls. Over time, the best rock category has had Coldplay, Kings of Leon, Foo Fighters, The Kill-

ers — all these bands that are obviously bigger than we are. You're playing in a different league. I don't feel certain about winning at all. I wouldn't even if we were in the metal category. We'll see what happens. I'm just happy to be nominated once again.

AP: The Grammys seem to have a fluid idea of what you make. How do you call what you do?

Forge: I don't feel the need to categorize what we do. Let me put it this way, if I'm in a cab, and the cab driver says, "What do you sound like?" Depending on the age, if it's someone likely to know who Alice Cooper is, I'd say, "Well, it's theatrical rock, kind of like Alice Cooper or Kiss." That's basically what it is in laymen's terms. At the end of the day, I think that the easiest way to explain it is melodic rock music with a big theatrical presentation.

AP: You'll be opening for Metallica on tour this summer. How does that feel?

Forge: I grew up with Metallica. Definitely from an early age, I became a fan. They've inspired me tremendously. Obviously, one of my favorite bands. A huge inspiration musically. They've been mentors without practically doing it themselves. They've always mentored me. Without them, I wouldn't be here. □

Associated Press

## Shia LaBeouf turned rehab into a writing room for new film



Director Alma Har'el, left, and actor Shia LaBeouf pose at the premiere of "Honey Boy" during the 2019 Sundance Film Festival, Friday, Jan. 25, 2019, in Park City, Utah.

Associated Press

By RYAN PEARSON

Associated Press

**PARK CITY, Utah (AP)** — Shia LaBeouf latest film was born in an unusual place — court-ordered rehab. The actor spent time writing the script for his semi-autobiographical "Honey Boy" while he was being treated for substance abuse after a 2017 arrest. "He wrote this script in rehab and actually sent me an email from there with the script," said Israeli director Alma Har'el. "So it was pretty mind blowing. I couldn't say no to that." LaBeouf premiered the film at the Sundance Film Festival on Friday in Park City, Utah. He didn't speak with the media but posed alongside his mother, Shayna Saide, and fellow actors. The former "Transformers" star plays an alcoholic and abusive father of a child actor, who is played at different

ages by Noah Jupe (of "A Quiet Place") and Lucas Hedges ("Boy Erased").

"I think it was emotionally difficult for anybody to do what he did and I think nobody has ever done it before," Har'el said. "He stepped into his own trauma and played his father in it — the most complicated relationship he's ever had, that defined his life more than anything else." LaBeouf had admired an early documentary by Har'el and they'd developed a working relationship over the years. "We did a music video. He was kind enough to finance my second film when nobody but nobody else would," she said. In 2017, LaBeouf pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor charge of obstruction stemming from his attempt to elude police following a vulgar public outburst in Georgia. □



# Why do so many Americans now support legalizing marijuana?

By Amy Adamczyk  
Associated Press

American views on marijuana have shifted incredibly rapidly. Thirty years ago, marijuana legalization seemed like a lost cause. In 1988, only 24 percent of Americans supported legalization.

But steadily, the nation began to liberalize. By 2018, 66 percent of U.S. residents offered their approval, transforming marijuana legalization from a libertarian fantasy into a mainstream cause. Many state laws have changed as well. Over the last quarter-century, 10 states have legalized recreational marijuana, while 22 states have legalized medical marijuana. So why has public opinion changed dramatically in favor of legalization? In a study published this February, we examined a range of possible reasons, finding that the media likely had the greatest influence.

It's not about use, geography or demographics. Our study ruled out a few obvious possibilities.

For one, it's not about marijuana use. Yes, marijuana use has increased. Data from the National Survey on Drug Use and Health show that, in 2002, about 10 percent of adults reported using marijuana the previous year. By 2015, 13.5 percent reported using. But that increase is too small to have had much of an impact on attitudes.

And it's not about older, more conservative Americans being replaced by younger generations who are more familiar with marijuana. Both younger and older people developed more liberal views about the legalization of marijuana at a similar pace over the last 30 years. In this way, changes in attitudes about marijuana legalization mirror recent increases in support for LGBTQ individuals. We looked to see if people who lived in states where it was illegal, but resided next to ones where it became legal, were more likely to have changed their views. But the rate of change has



In this Dec. 14, 2010 file photo, a marijuana plant is seen growing at Med Grow Cannabis College in Southfield, Mich.

been no different in states that legalized marijuana than in others.

Likewise, the pace of change has been similar across political parties, religions, educational levels, racial and ethnic groups and gender. As politically polarized as the country may seem, when it comes to marijuana, Americans have been changing their attitudes together, as a nation.

We did find that a small part of the increase in support was related to more people disaffiliating with religion. The proportion of

people who do not identify with a religion has increased some, by about 7 percent between 2007 and 2014. People who do not have a religion tend to be more liberal than others. However, this factor accounts for only a small proportion of the change. Media medical framing

So what's going on? What has likely made the biggest difference is how the media has portrayed marijuana. Support for legalization began to increase shortly after the news media began to frame marijuana as a medical issue.

We took The New York Times as a case study, looking at the number of published articles from 1983 to 2015 about marijuana.

Just before the number of Americans supporting legalization began to increase, we found a sharp increase in the proportion of articles about marijuana that discussed its medical uses.

In the 1980s, the vast majority of New York Times stories about marijuana were about drug trafficking and abuse or other Schedule I drugs. At that time, The New York Times was more

likely to lump marijuana together in a kind of unholy trinity with cocaine and heroin in discussions about drug smuggling, drug dealers and the like.

During the 1990s, stories discussing marijuana in criminal terms became less prevalent. Meanwhile, the number of articles discussing the medical uses of marijuana slowly increased. By the late 1990s, marijuana was rarely discussed in the context of drug trafficking and drug abuse. And marijuana had lost its association with other Schedule I drugs like cocaine and heroin in the New York Times.

Gradually, the stereotypical persona of the marijuana user shifted from the stoned slacker wanting to get high to the aging boomer seeking pain relief. Harsh criminal justice system

As Americans became more supportive of marijuana legalization, they also increasingly told survey researchers that the criminal justice system was too harsh.

In the late 1980s, the "war on drugs" and sentencing reform laws put a large number of young men, often black and Latino, behind bars for lengthy periods of time. As Americans started to feel the full social and economic effects of tough-on-crime initiatives, they reconsidered the problems with criminalizing marijuana.

Because support for the legalization of marijuana and concerns about the harshness of the criminal justice system changed at about the same time, it's difficult to know what came first. Did concern about the harshness of the criminal justice system affect support for legalization – or vice versa?

By contrast, the cause and effect is clearer with respect to the media framing of marijuana. The news media's portrayal of marijuana began to change shortly before the public did, suggesting that the media influenced support for the legalization of marijuana. □



In this Oct. 2, 2018, file photo, a clerk reaches for a container of marijuana buds for a customer at Utopia Gardens, a medical marijuana dispensary in Detroit.

Associated Press